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SAMPSON COUNTY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

The Sampson Weekly



VOLUME 9, ISSUE 4

Week of January 19-25, 2018

www.thesampsonweekly.com

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Winter Storm Inga Closes Schools and County Offices



Once again, most of Sampson County received a blanket of snow on Wednesday night, with the southern and middle parts of the county receiving only a dusting. Except this time, the table was turned, and the northern end of the county received the blunt of Winter Storm Inga's wrath with reports of over 2 inches. Two weeks ago, the southern end of Sampson County received the largest snow totals in the range of 4 inches.

Clinton City Schools made the decision on Tuesday night to close school on Wednesday in anticipation of the forecasted snow. Sampson County Schools followed suit and shortly called schools closed on Wednesday as well. On Wednesday morning and into midday, no precipitation had been seen, leaving parents wondering why schools were **SNOW, see P. 4**

Visitation Restricted at Sampson Regional Medical Center



**Temporary visitation restrictions imposed due to flu*

Due to increased influenza activity reported throughout North Carolina and in the local area, Sampson Regional Medical Center has imposed visitation restrictions until further notice. With few exceptions, the mandatory visitation guidelines are hospital-wide and restrict visitors under the age of 18 or adults of any age who have fever or flu-like symptoms.

Providing the best quality of care in a safe environment means protecting patients. "This means managing their exposure to contagious illnesses, such as the flu," stated Wanda Holden, RN, Infection Control Coordinator for Sampson Regional Medical Center. As a result, the hospital is imposing these special measures to protect its patients, staff, and visitors from spreading the flu.

Individuals with the following indications should not visit the hospital until they are free of symptoms for 24 hours: fever or feeling feverish, cough, sore throat, or muscle or body aches.

All visitors are encouraged to perform good hand hygiene upon entering or exiting the facility or when coming and going from a patient's room. Hygiene stations are located throughout the hospital, stocked with face masks, tissue, and hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer pumps are also located at the entry point of every patient room.

"In addition to getting the flu shot, respiratory hygiene and hand washing are the most important steps people can take to help prevent the spread of flu," said Holden.

Imposing visitation restrictions is just one of many steps the hospital is taking to protect its patients and public. Healthcare personnel who develop fever or flu symptoms are asked not to report to work. Isolation measures are in effect for patients with flu, which requires staff entering the room to wear a face mask and at times a gown and gloves. Staff are also required to wear a mask during flu season if for any reason they have an acceptable reason for not receiving the annual flu vaccine, which is a requirement of employment at Sampson Regional.

The hospital expects visitation restrictions to be in place through at least March but will reevaluate and extend depending on the volume of flu cases at that time.

WEATHER

Fri Sunny
0%

Hi: 55° Lo: 29°

Sat Sunny
10%

Hi: 59° Lo: 32°

Sun Partly Cloudy
10%

Hi: 64° Lo: 36°

Mon Sunny
0%

Hi: 67° Lo: 36°

Tues Raim
60%

Hi: 63° Lo: 33°

Wed Sunny
0%

Hi: 56° Lo: 32°



"BloomFest" Taking Bloom

It may be snowy and frigid outside, but that has not stopped the BloomFest Committee in Roseboro from thinking of Spring and flowers in full bloom. The Town of Roseboro is planning their first annual BloomFest which is scheduled for Saturday, April 28th from 10am-4pm. What an appropriate title considering the town's motto is "Take Root and Bloom".

According to the Town of Roseboro and event coordinators, "We are excited to announce the date of our First Annual 'BloomFest' on Saturday April 28, 2018. As our town slogan boasts, Roseboro is a place for families to 'Take Root and Bloom'. 'BloomFest' is an opportunity to celebrate Roseboro and all that our community has to offer. 'BloomFest' will be a Downtown Festival highlighting our local businesses with the addition of craft and shopping vendors, food vendors, live music/entertainment and free activities for children, cultivating and nurturing families and businesses in the Roseboro area. Our town, the mayor and committee members are dedicated to providing family oriented events allowing our community to thrive."

Event coordinator Allison Strickland stated that the idea had been on the burner for a while and that the committee felt like 2018 was a great time for the inaugural event.

BLOOMFEST, see P. 4

WEEKLY VERSE

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.
1 Corinthians 10:13

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LOCAL NEWS

From the Desk of Senator Brent Jackson



I hope you are having a great week. I would like to take this time to reflect on the life and vision of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as we honored him this week. Martin Luther King devoted his life to justice, freedom, and most important of all, love over hate. Let us remember him by embodying the principles he stood for in our daily lives. He said it best, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Earlier this month, my Legislative Assistant, Alex Fagg, and I attended the 2018 State Agriculture and Rural Leaders (SARL) summit in Kansas City, Missouri. We were joined by Senator Bill Rabon and Senator Norman Sanderson. SARL is an international group of leaders from across the United States and Canada who come together to discuss and address issues facing rural communities and agriculture industry. This is the sixth SARL conference I have attended, and I always enjoy collaborating with people from different geographical areas who share similar issues and obstacles related to agriculture and rural communities, and working together to develop strategies to solve them. I would like to share a few of the topics that we covered.

At this year's conference, we discussed important issues that affect life across rural America. One of the topics that we discussed was how to provide individuals in rural communities access to high speed internet. This remains to be a top priority of mine in North Carolina, and I found it very interesting to learn the extent that other states across our country experience the same problem. We also discussed how technological advances and research for farmers will remain important in our future. As the agriculture and farming industry grows, research will continue to be a priority in ensuring that the industry is efficiently maximized.



Above is a picture of Senator Sanderson, myself, and my Legislative Assistant Alex Fagg at one of SARL's receptions.

We were also honored to host many individuals, including the Environmental Protection Agency, the Food and Drug Administration, and the United States Department of Agriculture, who spoke on agriculture from a Federal level. They touched on their important roles in agriculture, such as regulation, labeling, and education. I have no doubt that our North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler is preparing for new federal laws that the future will hold, and I am ready to work with him to ensure that we are prepared to comply and administer the new laws.

One of the things I have enjoyed the most when attending the annual SARL conference is having a test panel of consumers answer questions and make comments about the agriculture industry, food production, and marketing. Questions range from all different sides of the industry, such as how large do you think an average farm is, to opinions on the latest advances in crop science. The panel's answers seemed more in touch with reality than last year's responses, but it did emphasize the importance of how the agriculture community needs to connect with young people across the industry.

We also had three breakout sessions during the conference. The first covered how state legislation impacted pets, and the increasingly important issue that animal importations to fulfill adoption demands are impacting our states in many ways, such as economically and disease. The second breakout session covered the livestock industry, and we discussed the relationship between producers and consumers. The third breakout session addressed hemp production, and Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Ryan Quarles and Kim Shukla of the Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance shared their thoughts on hemp and its regulation and possible economic impacts. This was especially interesting considering the recent legislation passed by the North Carolina Legislature to establish a pilot program to allow farmers to grow hemp.

In addition to hearing presentations and discussing the agriculture industry and our rural communities, we also had the opportunity to tour several industry related facilities around Kansas City. The first of three was a pet food production facility named Greenies. We were given a behind the scenes tour of their production plant and had an opportunity to see how they manufacture their Greenies Dental Treats and Greenies Pill Pockets Treats.

The second location we toured was the United States Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and its Money Museum. This was a fantastic experience and we were able to see how they handled cash, dealt with counterfeit bills, and see their famous Harry S. Truman Coin Collection. They even had an actual gold bar, which I found out weighs more than it appears to in the movies!

At the third location, we were able to tour the Veterans Community Project. This is a unique place where veterans offer assistance to other veterans, regardless of their background. They are working on a project called "tiny house" to help assist veterans. This allows the veteran to

be able to live with their families for a certain amount of time and work to adjust to civilian life. They offer many other support services for veterans, such as a bus ticket that allows that veteran to have access to transportation by city buses.

Above is a picture of me inside the Veteran's Community Project's conference room. I would like to thank the Veterans Community Project for all the hard work and dedication that they put forward for our nation's veterans!

Toward the end of the conference, I am honored to be unanimously elected as secretary of SARL. I look forward to stepping into this leadership position, and continuing to work to build on the bright future of agriculture and our rural communities.

I would like to thank all of the sponsors of the 2018 SARL Summit. Also, I want to give a big thank you to Dr. Carolyn Orr and her staff whose hard work made possible this year's SARL summit. This year's conference was a success and I had a great time attending and participating in all of the discussions and panels. I look forward to applying the knowledge I learned at this year's summit to legislation facing North Carolina. I look forward to attending the 2019 SARL Summit in Calgary, Canada!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist you in any way possible.

Legislative Recap

Over the course of the interim, I have been including a Legislative Recap Section in the Newsletter. This section reviews meaningful legislation that became law in the 2017 session.

Senate Bill 257: Appropriations Act of 2017

In my previous newsletter, we gave a high-level view of the Transportation section of the budget and this week we will go over the Statewide Reserves section of the budget. This section of the budget authorizes several transfers from the General Fund to various accounts, including the following: \$394 million to the Savings Reserve, \$125 million to the Repairs and Renovation Reserve, \$75 million to the Medicaid Transformation Fund, and \$7.5 million to the Golden L.E.A.F Foundation, which is essentially a pass through of a portion of the 1998 Master Settlement Funds.

I am incredibly proud of the emphasis that we have placed on saving in this section of the budget over the past few years. Our Savings Reserve Account is currently at its highest level of funding ever, which is nearly \$1.84 billion, and we now have legislation in place to require that automatic savings be at the forefront of the budget process.

Other major areas of this section include \$2 million for the Workers' Compensation Settlement Reserve which will allow the Office of State Human Resources to close existing claims and clear any backlog. Reserves money for enrollment increases in both our public K-12 schools and our Universities. This budget also adds an additional \$11 million to the NC Promise program which ensures that in-state tuition of \$500 a semester at certain universities. In order to make sure that North Carolina's financial software and infrastructure keeps up with changes in technology, this budget appropriated \$13 million over 2 years to start the process of funding a new Enterprise Resource Planning system.

Overall, this section of the budget is in line with the approach we have seen the legislature take towards budgeting over the last few years with making savings a priority and reserving money to shield the state from financial volatility. This approach of living within your means and saving for rainy days is one of the main reasons for North Carolina earning a AAA bond rating, which is the highest, from all 3 rating agencies.

You can view the full bill and money report at the following link: Bill: <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/Bills/Senate/PDF/S257v8.pdf> and Money Report: http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/Budget/2017/conference_committee_report_2017_06_19.pdf

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if you have any questions pertaining to this legislation.

From the District

Sampson County

Academic Advantage Offering Tutoring Initiative for Students

Academic Advantage is a tutoring initiative program that is designed to help students of all grades learn and receive help on various subjects. During the school year, Academic Advantage will offer free tutoring services to students from 3pm to 6pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Sampson Center in Clinton. Beginning in 2010, the Academic Abundance program will focus on the goal of providing a better life for people. They are working with other organizations, such as civic centers, churches, educators, as well as many others to spread awareness of their tutoring initiative. The Academic Advantage program is driven by the community through their volunteers, and they hope to expand to other areas around throughout Sampson County. A kickoff date is set for Thursday, January 18th, at the Sampson Center located at 808 Barden Street in Clinton. If you are interested in volunteering, making a donation, or would like more information, please contact Kenneth Benton at 919-395-5336 or drbenton2@gmail.com.

District Spotlight

After 36 years of service on the Town Council for the city of Wallace, David Jordan has decided to retire as Mayor Pro Tem. Mr. Jordan was recognized during a special presentation at a recent town council meeting. During his tenure with the Wallace Town Council, Mr. Jordan served with four mayors, seven town managers, attended 432 town council meetings, and served as Mayor Pro Tem for 31 years. Mr. Jordan worked with many different people over his 36 years with Wallace, and through their hard work together, they were able to overcome many issues and obstacles to improve the town. It was proposed at the meeting that the town work to create a way to recognize their employees who go above and beyond their daily tasks and service to their citizens, and it was suggested that the name of the award be the Councilman David Jordan Above and Beyond Award. Please join me in thanking David Jordan for his many years of service to the town of Wallace and wishing him a relaxing retirement.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative in the North Carolina Senate. I read every email that comes to my legislative account and I encourage you to reach out to me with your thoughts and concerns. If you would like to stay informed of my actions in the legislature, I encourage you to friend me on Facebook and/or follow me on Twitter.

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CPD Citizen Satisfaction Survey



Over the Summer of 2017, the Clinton Police Department, with the help of the department's summer intern, Marc Lopez, developed and designed a 26 question Citizen Satisfaction Survey. Results of that survey were shared with Mayor Lew Starling, City Council members and the public at a recent Council Meeting.

Police Chief Donald Edwards and Senior Administrative Specialist Brittany Locklear presented the survey results with Locklear explaining, "The department's goal in distributing the survey was to receive honest feedback from the community we serve on what areas we could serve them better and our areas of strength. It is important to our department that citizens, businesses, and schools are satisfied with the service we provide."

"We organized our questions into three categories: Do citizens, businesses, and schools feel safe in the city limits; Is our department capable and dependable; and, Does our department uphold our core values of Respect, Professionalism, Integrity, and Teamwork?"

Locklear added, "We also asked 3 specific questions that did not fit into one of these categories mentioned above: Are we involved in our community; Does the department need more officers; and, Does the department need more presence?"

Results from city residents indicate that:

- 79% feel safe in their neighborhoods and business areas in the city limits
- 78% believe Clinton Police Department is capable and dependable
- And 85% believe Clinton Police Department upholds the values of Respect, Professionalism, Integrity, and Teamwork

Locklear goes on to add, "A majority of residents that participated in our Satisfaction Survey agree that Clinton Police Department is involved in our community, they believe we need more officers, and they would like to see more Clinton Police Department presence in their neighborhoods."

"We received an overwhelming response from the age group of 51 plus. Overall 90% of survey takers fit in to this age group."

"The department," explained Locklear, "was also interested in whether or not the city residents, businesses, and schools perceive crime to have increased, decreased, or stayed the same. While majority of our citizens indicated by their responses in the survey that they are satisfied in the work we do at Clinton Police Department, majority believe crime has remained the same."

"The Clinton Police Department broke down information into survey responses by businesses, the 5 city schools, including Sampson Community College, and each city district."

For business areas the responses received expressed that:

- 89% feel safe in their business areas
- 93% believe Clinton Police Department is capable and dependable
- And 95% believe Clinton Police Department upholds our values of Respect, Professionalism, Integrity, and Teamwork.

Locklear explains the results mean, "A majority of businesses in Clinton agree that Clinton Police Department is involved in the community, they agree Clinton Police Department needs more officers, and they believe they need more Clinton Police presence in their business areas."

"A majority of businesses also believe that while they are satisfied with our services they believe crime has remained the same."

Survey responses from the 5 city schools and Sampson Community College were very similar to

those of residents and businesses:

- 98% feel safe
- 100% believe Clinton Police Department to be capable and dependable
- And 100% believe Clinton Police Department upholds our core values of Respect, Professionalism, Integrity, and Teamwork.

"A majority agree we are involved," states Locklear. "They agree we need more officers, and they also agree that they need more Clinton Police presence. The majority of their perceptions of crime was split between increased and remained the same. They too are satisfied with the department's service, but they believe crime has increased or remained the same."

Locklear concluded, "The Clinton Police Department's standing with the city from the response we got from our surveys is favorable. We have taken these responses seriously and are looking forward to using the specific recommendations to enhance our services to the City of Clinton."

Chief Edwards explained, "The last survey we conducted was in 2014."

"I truly wanted this to be a useful tool and I have to thank Marc Lopez, our 2017 summer intern and Senior Administrative Specialist Brittany Locklear for developing it. I am very pleased with the response we had this year from residents, schools, and businesses."

"While we are always available to our community to hear any compliments, or concerns they may have, this survey is a way to gather that information in a measurable and useful way."

We are already looking at the concerns mentioned and will use it to help direct our officers, so we maintain the highest quality of service to our citizens."

"Anytime," said Edwards, "if citizens have a concern and wish to remain anonymous they may use our Tip411 anonymous text tip line. Simply text the tip to 847411, starting the message with tipcpd."

MLK Business Reception – A Call to Serve

On Monday, January 15th, the Multi-Cultural Business Committee of the Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce hosted the 18th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Business Reception. A theme prevalent throughout the 2-hour event was a call to do more – A call to serve humanity with the same spirit and unconditional love that Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr championed throughout his ministry and civil rights campaign.



Mr. Edward Faison Jr. (author and civil rights activist) and Reverend Dr. Randy Simmons (Sr. Pastor at Holly Grove Holiness Church)

Dr. Ted Thomas opened the celebration recalling the events of nearly 50 years ago. A day that changed history. At 6:01 pm on April 4, 1968 on the 2nd floor balcony of room 306 at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis Tennessee, Dr. King was fatally shot by James Earl Ray. An hour later at 7:01 pm, the 39-year-old icon of civil rights was pronounced dead.

"50 years later," said Thomas, "we still remember the man who gave his life for civil rights. 50 years later we still think about what he did for each and every one of us."

Chuck Spell, President of the Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce, addressed those assembled recalling the man in which King said he wish to be remembered. Not by his speeches, not by his Nobel Prize, and not by his many awards. "Instead," said Spell, "he wished to be remembered as a man who had tried to live a life or service. A man who lived a life to love. A man who lived a life to cloth and feed those less fortunate."

Spell closed his remarks by challenging all in attendance to lend a hand to someone in need. "To serve in our community in order to improve upon it and improve the lives of our citizens. And pass those teaches down to our children, so they can learn for the past and build a better future."

"We have history here in the making in Sampson County," stated Mayor Lew Starling as he addressed the audience. "Albert Kirby has just been appointed the new Superior Court Judge. The first African American ever. That is wonderful, wonderful news for this city, for this county, and for this state."

Starling closed his remarks quoting Dr. King, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?" Starling added, "You can't do for others if you don't get out of your comfort zone."

Starling encouraged those in attendance to expand their boundaries, so they could do as King wanted, do more for others.

Keynote Speaker, Dr. James A. Anderson, Chancellor at Fayetteville State University described how a speech from King in 1963 at the March on Washington event changed the life of a poor, 13-year old boy from the streets of DC. That 13-year old would later become Chancellor at North Carolina's second oldest public institution, Fayetteville State University. Dr. Anderson explained that it wasn't the politic of the day which brought him and two young friends to the March on Washington. It was the opportunity for spoils that a large event on the National Monument ground offered 3 homeless boys.

Anderson described the crowd as King walked on stage. "Watching the crowd go wild, you would have thought Jesus walked on stage. And you know what, maybe He did in human form. Maybe He did."

"Martin was able to use such vivid and colorful metaphors as he talked, that even a 13-year-old understood the meaning behind what he was saying. He had a way to speak to a 13-year-old or an 80-year-old."

Anderson described a point in King's speech where King reached out toward the massive audience, and for a moment it was as if King was cupping the face and speaking only to a 13-year-old James Anderson. It was a moment that Anderson credits for changing his life. Anderson too closed his remarks imploring people to do more to help others. Do more to teach others. And do more to remind others of the sacrifices of those civil rights leaders, both male and female, that came before to pave the way.

Concluding the program was the annual awarding of the MLK Image Award which was received by Mr. Edward Faison Jr. (author and civil rights activist) and Dr. Rodney Sessoms introduced the first recipient as a Sampson County native from a two-parent home as one of four children. When not in school, this person worked from early morning to late at night in the family woodyard. A 1949 graduate of Sampson Training School, the young Faison was off to NC Central University prior to being drafted in the military. He later returned to college and received his degree. Mr. Edward Faison Jr. is the author of 3 books; Racism, The Inevitable In America ; Short, Black and Nappy-Headed: Together Again Forever ; and African American Folk Tales .

Dr. Ted Thomas introduced the second recipient as someone who works under the radar and behind the scenes to do a lot for the community. A Pastor deeply involved in Christ and diversity. A man who stand for what he believes. A man who believes that everybody is the same, no matter their heritage, place of birth or ethnicity. The second recipient of the MLK Image Award was the Reverend Dr. Randy Simmons (Sr. Pastor at Holly Grove Holiness Church).

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LOCAL NEWS

SNOW, cont. from 1



closed in the first place. According to weather reports, the storm had slowed down over central North Carolina.

On Tuesday, NC Governor Roy Cooper declared a State of Emergency in wake of the storm.

Sampson County government offices made the call to close at 3pm on Wednesday and issued a 2-hour delay for Thursday morning.

Some parts of the county started seeing wintry weather around 6pm while others did not see the snow until after 9pm on Wednesday night. Snow fall totals ranged from only a dusting in the southern end of the county to up to 2 inches the further you traveled north. Some parts of the state received over a foot of snow, leaving many Sampsonians disappointed, wondering where their snow was.

On Wednesday night, both school systems once again made the call for the schools to be closed due to road conditions. Sampson Community College and many private academies followed with announcement of closures or delays.

According to Dr. Stuart Blount, Superintendent of Clinton City Schools, "Students will make up yesterday (January 17) on Friday, March 30. No decision yet on how we will make up today (January 18)."

Dr. Eric Bracy, Superintendent with Sampson County School said that the makeup day decision would be made next week.

Keith Jackson, Sampson County Maintenance Engineer with DOT, explained road conditions on Thursday after the snowfall. Jackson stated, "Our secondary routes are partially covered with snow in Northern Sampson County; Spivey's Corner, Plainview, Newton Grove to the 403 corridor." Jackson stated that the DOT had 16 trucks working on the roads in Sampson County after the storm passed.

Jackson also stated, "We have brought in 4 trucks from Brunswick and Pender Counties to assist with road cleanup."

The snow will only be a memory this weekend as forecasters are calling for temperatures in the mid 60's on Sunday.

BLOOMFEST, cont. from 1

"We have a BloomFest Committee, with myself, Allie Strickland being Chair, Cameron Fisher Wright being Co-Chair," stated Strickland. "Our committee consists of several Roseboro natives and community members. The idea of a 'Downtown Festival' isn't technically a 'new' idea to the town, I think a lot of people have mentioned it over the years and would love to see it come to fruition but, the actual idea of 'BloomFest' in specific came to me, personally about a year ago. I am originally from Apex, NC. Although Apex has grown tremendously over the years, when I was growing up there, it was much like Roseboro, small town, family owned businesses, everybody knew everybody- it was delightful. We always had 'Peak Week' in Apex, a week during the summer that offered family friendly events and on Saturday of that week, the town hosted a Downtown Festival. There were tons of food vendors from mom-n-pop BBQ stands to carnival style funnel cakes, plenty of activities for kids, bouncy houses to face painting and vendor tents as far as you could see down Salem Street (our downtown street). And, of course, they had live music playing the whole time. It was such a fun, exciting event for all ages!"

Strickland continued, "Lots of towns do something similar to this and I thought...Roseboro needs this. Upon moving here 6 years ago with my husband, who is a Salemburg native and grandson of former Salemburg Mayor for 34 years, Bobby Strickland, I never thought that I would fall in love with this community just as much as the family I married into. I truly have a heart for the people of this community. I work as a Dental Assistant at Lane and Associates Family Dentistry in Roseboro, my patients are from all areas of our community with very diverse backgrounds. This project became even more important to me when I realized there was a NEED for something like BloomFest for our community. The children of this community deserve a positive event like BloomFest to help not only unite us all but for their families to have access to a family friendly event to experience together. So, I took action- I go to church with Mrs. Alice Butler, the mayor of Roseboro, so I called her up one afternoon and shared the idea. After a nerve racking presentation to the town board, it was a unanimous vote to approve BloomFest and to start the planning process."

The BloomFest Committee is excited to announce that the headliner entertainer will be Brittany McLamb, a Salemburg native who is an aspiring country artist, currently living in Nashville, TN.

"We will have other live music and entertainment acts from local dance groups and performers," noted Strickland. "We will have food vendors, craft and shopping vendors, a 'Kid Korner' with bounce houses and free activities for kids, a special 'Touch A Truck' exhibit. The 'Touch A Truck' exhibit is probably what I am most excited about for the kids of our community. This will be a hands on educational exhibit where kids can actually touch, get inside and learn about a specific vehicle. Ex: Trash Truck, Fire Truck, Tractor. We feel this will be a very exciting part of BloomFest! The Sampson Arts Council has also agreed to help provide a free art project and face painting for kids."

Mrs. Strickland concluded, "We encourage people to please join the fun with BloomFest and check out the Roseboro town website at roseboronc.com events section to find Vendor, Touch A Truck and Entertainment Applications. We would love to hear from anyone who would like to participate in any way. For more information and other inquiries please contact us at bloomfestroseboro@gmail.com."

The 2018 BloomFest is being sponsored by the Town of Roseboro, Crumpler Plastic Pipe, Lane and Associates Family Dentistry and the Sampson County Visitors Bureau. If you would be interested in being a sponsor, contact the Town of Roseboro at 910-525-4121.

The BloomFest committee would like to thank the Town of Roseboro, the Roseboro Town Board and local sponsors for making this event possible.

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We Should Know . . .



Lin Reynolds with JW Simmons, Host of We Should Know

Tuesdays from 2:30 PM until 3:30 PM, J.W. Simmons hosts a radio show on 1170 AM called “We Should Know”, and The Sampson Weekly will feature portions of the transcripts in our continuing efforts to bring you more coverage of what is happening in our community.

The topic for this week’s show is Public Works in Sampson County and the guest is Lin Reynolds, Director of Public Works for Sampson County.

Lin Reynolds joined the Sampson County Public Works department 7 months ago. Prior to working for Sampson County, Reynolds retired as District Engineer after 28 years with the NC Department of Transportation. Lin Reynolds is married to Lisa Reynolds, a retired educator, and they have two grown children.

Sampson County Public Works has three service divisions: Water Operations, Buildings and Grounds, and Road Sign Maintenance. The functions of the department are to maintain all county buildings and grounds, the erection and maintenance of all county and private road signs, and the operation of the county’s two water districts.

JW Simmons begins the show discussing the importance of road signs within the county. Lin Reynolds agrees stating that signs help direct all emergency management, including law enforcement, 911 operators as well as fire and rescue personnel.

“For 911 and the fire department those signs are crucial,” says Reynolds. “The fire departments, they’re the ones who call us when a sign is down, because they’re out in the community more than anybody else.”

“Currently, we have over 1,700 private lane and road signs in this county. We maintain those whenever they’re torn down. So, that’s a pretty big challenge. Sometimes it vandalism and sometimes it someone driving over them like a long tractor trailer turning sharp. Sometimes we find them laying in a ditch and we can set them again.”

Reynolds says when he began 7 months ago there was a list of about 185 missing signs reported by various fire departments. Since, his department has worked hard to reduce that number to less than 25 downed signs at the moment; which he says is about normal.

Next, JW Simmons says what he really wanted to discuss this week was the county water system and the significant savings currently being offered to residents who want to tap into and start receiving county water at their home.

Lin Reynolds explains, “The county commissioners, which comprise the water board, asked that we come

up with some ideas to increase our customer base, and the best way to increase that with the least impact to the budget is to sign the people up on existing water lines. So, to stimulate the signup, we felt like reducing it (Tap in Fee) from \$500 or \$600 depending on the size, down to \$100 for a short amount of time would stimulate that growth.”

“It seems to be working,” adds Reynolds. “We are up to 17 new taps this month, and we usually do about 8 or 9 a month.”

Reynolds goes on to explain that even if you don’t anticipate using county water, with the reduced tap in fee it’s a good opportunity to get connected. But there is a monthly administration fee.

“The administration or flat fee is \$19.40 per month. And then, if you use water it’s \$4.85 ever 1,000 gallons. So, the average water bill would run between \$30 to \$40 per month. A family of 4 would be about \$43 on average per month.”

Reynolds also explains, “The reason we ask that you sign a 2-year contract was to recoup the reduction in the fees for the tap. It costs the county about \$750 to put a tap in. So, we were already losing money at \$500, or forfeiting \$250.”

Reynolds says that the county felt that if they provided clean water and good service, which they intend to do, then customers would buy water and the county would eventual recoup its investment.

Currently, the reduced tap in fee only applies to properties on an existing water line. But Reynolds says that if a community has enough members who want a new water line established, they can come and petition the county water department to add a line and the county would certainly consider it.

Next, Simmons asks Reynolds to discuss the future vision for the county water system. Reynolds explains, “Right now, the vision is to serve those we have on existing lines. We have focused on increasing the infrastructure, but we have to be prudent with our installation because it costs so much to put new lines in.”

“We look for 10 customers per mile,” adds Reynolds. “That’s the breaking point when it’s profitable. We’ve got quite a few roads that meet that, but I have ridden every road in the county that doesn’t have water lines on it, and I have a map identified where we can market those roads that have 10 customers a mile.”

“There are some roads that doesn’t have enough people to run new water lines at the current time. The biggest of the population is in the northwestern part of the county. That’s the densest area.”

Next, Simmons asks Reynolds to discuss the use of well water in Sampson County and the benefits of being on a managed water system. Reynolds states, “I don’t think most people get their water tested. If it tastes good and looks clean, they drink it and they don’t look back.”

“There is a method where you can call the county office and the Environmental Department will come out and test it. I have had mind tested at home,” says Reynolds. “I currently have a well because we don’t have a county line running by my house. So, I do have my water tested every couple of years.”

The reduced tap in fee of \$100 will run through March 31st for prospective customers with property already on a water line. Must enter into a contract to pay the minimum monthly water fee for a period of 24 months, even if no water is purchased. After the March 31st deadline, tap in fees will be \$500 or \$600 depending on the size of line required. For more information contact Sampson County Public Works at (910) 592-0188.

To view the entire broadcast of We Should Know please visit their YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/WeShouldKnowEDU.

The next “We Should Know” hosted by J.W. Simmons will air next Tuesday from 2:30 to 3:30 PM on our local radio station WCLN 1170 AM. If you would like to reach “We Should Know” you may call them at 910-592-8947 or email them with show ideas at weshouldknowedu@gmail.com or you can find them on Facebook.



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FAITH

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THROUGH

When I saw what lay before me,
"Lord," I cried, "What will You do?"
I thought He would just remove it,
But He gently led me through.

Without fire, there's no refining,
Without pain, no relief,
Without flood there's no rescue,

Without testing, no belief.

Through the fire, through the flood,
Through the water, through the blood,
Through the dry and barren places,
Through life's dense and maddening mazes,
Through the pain and through the glory,
Through it all we'll tell the story,
Of the God whose power and mercy
Will not fail to take us through.

I knew He could part the waters,
At His voice, a mountain move,
But His love would crowd me to Him,
Through my need His presence prove.



Come, my child, I'll take you through;
When you faint, I'll carry you.
Cast on Me your fear and weakness
Trust My heart, I'll take you through.

By Martha Pierce



Cookie Monster Christian

Mark 12:29-31, "And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

Do you have an obsession? Is there something that your friends and family would say you are passionate about? If you grew up watching Sesame Street you know what the obsession is that Cookie Monster had. He was deeply, emotionally and some would say spiritually attached to cookies. I can recall on one episode that Cookie Monster was confronted with the horror of an empty cookie jar and he immediately burst into tears. With that kind of reaction, I think we would all agree he had a true obsession.

I'm not saying that it is wrong to enjoy eating cookies, going hunting or cheering on your beloved sports team. However, I do believe that if we are obsessed with the things of this world more than with God we have a problem. We laugh at the Cookie Monster's obsession, but it's no joking matter when it comes to ourselves.

If you love anything more than God I would proclaim that

we actually hate God. Okay, you just read that sentence and probably are now saying, "Pastor, how is that true?" To love God is to desire to be in His presence, to yearn for His righteousness, to search out His perfect Word and crave His loving grace. To love God with this type of heart some might even accuse you with being obsessed with the Creator of the universe, but if they do, is that a bad thing?

Take this simple test to see if you are more obsessed with the world or with Jesus. First, take a look at your calendar. Do you have more dates circled for travel, taking the children to ball practice or extracurricular activities than you do for your involvement in the work of the Kingdom of God? Consider that God gives each of us twenty-four hours in the day to invest or waste any way we desire. Out of those precious expiring hours, how many do you spend focused on God? When Sunday rolls around do we just roll over in our comfortable beds or do we eagerly get up to spend time with other followers of Jesus? We should desire to have a life as described in Psalm 42:1, "As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God."

Now that you have taken the first part of the test, here is the final section. Go and get your checkbook, or pull up your bank account information online. Take a few moments just looking over how your resources were spent this past month. Now that the shock of how much we spend at the



grocery store has passed, did you use the money God allowed you to make to advance the message of Jesus? Did you spend more money on having temporary fun than on what will bring eternal joy?

You and I should be so profoundly committed to Jesus that we would be called obsessed with our Master. I encourage you this week to examine how you spend your time, talents and treasures. It might be okay to be a Cookie Monster on Sesame Street, but to walk on the streets of gold we should be totally committed to the one we will spend eternity with.



Rev. Ken Smith

JESUS THROUGH THE PICTURE WINDOW

By: Carolyn Horrell Mintz

I consider myself lucky. Lucky because I was raised in a Christian home, by Christian parents. I was taken to church as a child. I went to Sunday school and I learned about Jesus. I heard the Bible stories and learned about God's love, and about salvation.

My mama bought me a children's Bible storybook when I

was quite small. She read those Bible stories to me over and over. I loved to hear those stories. I loved to hear my mama read those stories. I grew up knowing God was real and knowing His Word was true.

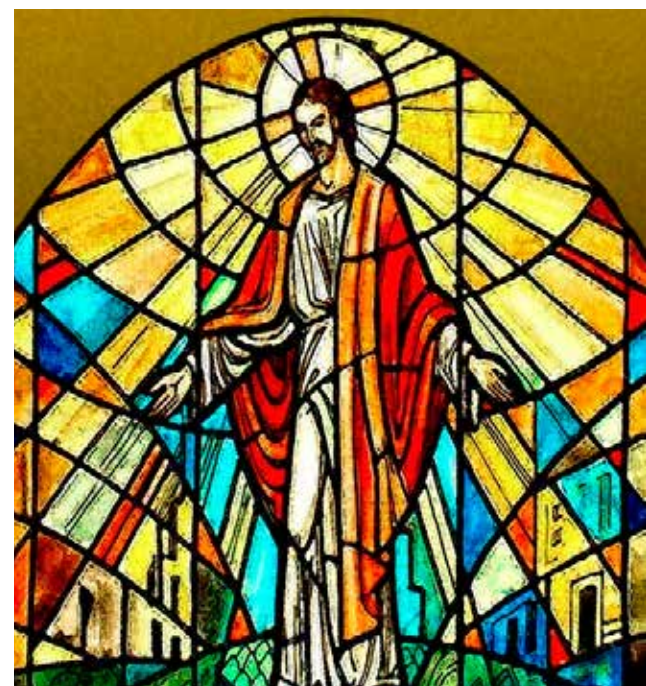
I am so thankful for my Christian family that also included my grandparents. I believe it is important to give children a good Christian foundation. They will grow up knowing about Jesus' love and forgiveness. I think that is priceless.

I often think about my mama. I miss her so much. She was a true Christian woman with unshakeable faith. And a heart of gold.

Our house had a picture window in the living room. Mama enjoyed sitting on the couch and looking out into the front yard. There is a beautiful view of the open sky from that window.

One day when Mama was older and I was grown with a child of my own, I was visiting with her. She was sitting on the couch looking out the picture window at the beautiful sky. She smiled and said, "I would love to look out this window and see Jesus coming back through the clouds with His hands outstretched. How wonderful that would be."

I was struck at that moment with the absolute



rock-solid faith Mama had. She lived her life as an example of God's Word and truth. No matter what the problem or situation, my mama's first response was prayer. She would always say, "I prayed about it and put it in God's hands. He will answer in His time."

Those were not just words to Mama. She believed them with unshakeable faith. She loved the Lord and lived her life accordingly. And the thought of seeing Jesus returning as God promised was pure joy to her.

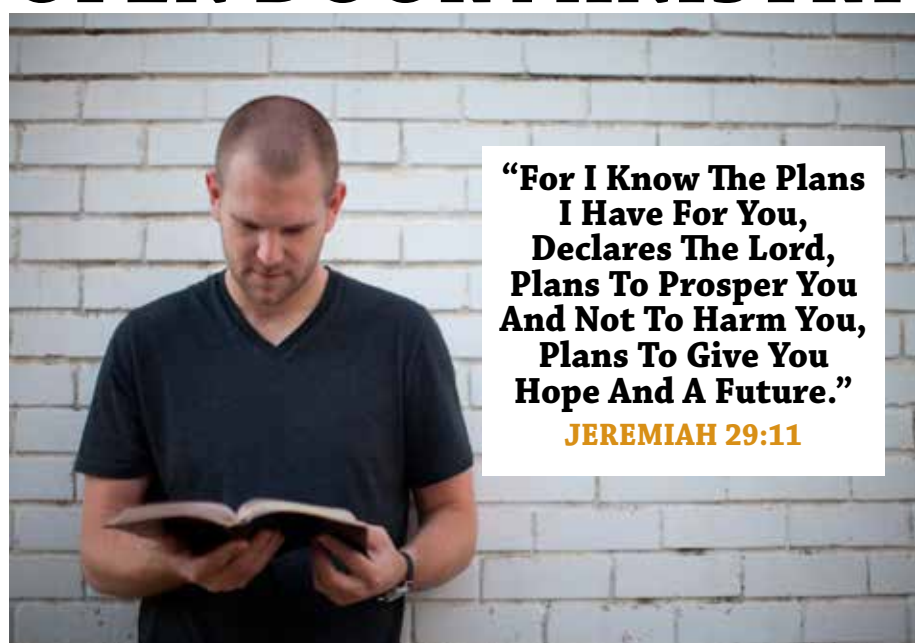
God called Mama home before the time of Jesus' return, but the Bible says the dead in Christ shall rise first at that joyous time. So, I believe Mama will one day see Jesus return through the clouds. I do not question God's Word. I firmly believe in Jesus' return. It is my prayer that my family and friends believe also.

It seems Christianity is under attack these days in America, the country that God has so richly blessed. I pray that will change and America will turn back to God.

I hope and pray that my faith will always be as strong and unshakeable as Mama's was. And I KNOW that one Jesus will return. Of that I am sure. I hope everyone is ready for that Great Day!



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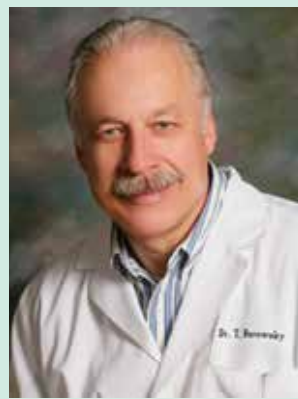
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Protecting Your Eyes from the Elements



by R. Thomas Barowsky, MD



Wearing a brimmed hat is also a good way to keep the sun and its UV rays out of our eyes. 50% of direct sunlight can be blocked this way. Obviously, if you're out skiing, snowmobiling, fishing, or whatever, it won't do anything for the light reflected off the water or snow.



January has been designated National Eye Healthcare Month by the National Institute's National Eye Institute. It is a chance for us to talk about how we can keep our eyes healthy and our vision clear. Today's column will focus on protecting our eyes from the elements.

You probably notice that the winter sun always seems brighter and gives more discomfort to our eyes than the sun throughout the rest of the year. The reason for this is that the sun is closer to the earth in the winter so its brightness is more intense. By wearing a good quality pair of sunglasses you will reduce that discomfort significantly. Be sure that any tinted eyewear you choose has a UV filter that filters out 100% of ultraviolet light to protect your eyes from UV damage. In addition, a good pair of sunglasses will also have an antireflective coating to aid in reducing glare. Other coatings and filters are also available such as polarizers and mirrors. Depending on your outdoor activities these may be beneficial or not.

Another bothersome problem with winter weather is the extreme dryness of the air. Patients with dry eye problems are always more uncomfortable during the winter months than at other times because that cold dry air will cause the eyes to become even more irritated and tearing then is a lot worse. If you have dry eye problems or are bothered by the winter wind, a pair of sunglasses that have a means of blocking out the wind will make the outdoors more enjoyable. If you are not into the boxy styles that fit over a regular pair of glasses, you might consider some of the newer designs in protective eyewear that incorporate a removable gasket to seal around the eyes. Many of my dry eye patients have been very satisfied with this design for several reasons:

- They offer good protection from the wind and help prevent drying
- They offer protection from airborne dust and debris when the gasket is in place
- They offer many coating options to meet the needs of most patients
- The patient's prescription can be ground into the lenses

- They work well for many different lifestyles from the very active to the sedate
- They can be used as safety glasses without looking like safety glasses
- They are affordable
- They are fashionable

The important thing to remember, regardless of brand or style, is how well they block wind, dust and sun yet still provide clear and unobstructed vision.

So enjoy your winter activities and keep a healthy outlook on life with the proper eye protection.

If you have questions about your eye health e-mail Dr. Barowsky at doctom@tdkj.com and we'll try to answer your questions here at Eye-Q.

Preparing Food in the New Year



By: Perry E. Solice, Jr., REHS
Environmental Health Supervisor

As the New Year begins, it's a must to add more fruits and vegetables to our diet. This is a wonderful idea but remember all these salads and fruits must be safe to consume. Often we associate chicken and other meats with causing dreadful food poisonings, but a lot of red, green and yellow food items can make one sick also if not handled properly. There are several steps to follow to ensure you get those extra vitamins and minerals. Purchase produce that is not damaged or bruised. When selecting fresh cut produce, such as bagged salads or melons, choose items that are refrigerated or on ice. Bag your fruits and vegetables separately from meats and seafood products. Always store your produce in a clean refrigerator at a temperature of 41 degrees or lower. In preparing these fruits and vegetables make sure you wash your hands thoroughly. Discard any rotten produce which can contaminate other produce and make sure you wash all produce before eating. If the package indicates the contents have been pre-washed, you can consume the produce without further washing. If you choose to peel it before eating, it is very important to wash it first. Here are some other preventive steps you may follow when preparing foods:

1. Wash your hands often. Keeping your hands clean is one of the best ways to keep from getting sick and spreading illnesses. Cleaning your hands gets rid of germs you pick up

from other people, from the surfaces you touch, and from the animals you come in contact with. Several important times to always wash are before eating, before, during, and after preparing foods, after changing diapers and visits to the bathroom, and handling trash and pets. Wet your hands, apply soap and rub together for at least 20 seconds. It takes that long for the soap and scrubbing action to dislodge and remove stubborn germs. After rinsing your hands well under running water dry your hands using a paper towel or air dryer.

2. Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces around you. Cleaning and disinfection are not the same thing. Cleaning with soap and water removes dirt and most germs, but sometimes surfaces need a disinfectant for further protection from germs. While surfaces make look clean, germs may be lurking around for hours, even days. Disinfect those areas where there can be large numbers of dangerous germs, such as kitchen counter tops and bathrooms. Disinfectants destroy bacteria and other germs. Always be sure to follow the directions on the product label when using these germ destroying agents.

3. Handle and prepare food safely. Germs that cause foodborne illness can be spread throughout the kitchen from hands, cutting boards, utensils and counter tops. Be sure to clean kitchen surfaces before and after handling different food types. Wash your cutting boards, dishes, utensils and counter tops with hot soapy water after preparing each food item and before you prepare the next item. Don't cross-contaminate one food with another such as chicken, beef, and produce. Start at the grocery store by using the plastic bags available in the meat and produce sections. Be sure to not allow juices from meat, seafood, and poultry to drip on other foods during refrigeration. Also, be sure to cook foods to proper temperatures. The only way to know for sure that meat is cooked to a safe temperature is to use a food thermometer. Temperature control needs to be maintained for foods that are not going to be eaten immediately. Maintain heat or refrigerate foods promptly to keep the harmful bacteria away.

Staying healthy is important to all of us. Following these steps may help control many infectious diseases before they happen. The Sampson County Health Department also offers a ServSafe Class for anyone who manages or works in a food service establishment. It is a one-day course focusing on food sanitation, the flow of food preparation and sanitary facilities and pest management. For more information contact the Sampson County Environmental Health office at (910) 592-4675.

CAROLINA EYE CARE PROFESSIONALS, PA



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ENTERTAINMENT

What's Happening

at SCT

By Angela Martin

SCT rings in the new year as rehearsals continue!

Beauty and the Beast rehearsals continue as our cast members learn their songs and dances and get ready to put on a spectacle of magic, fun and wonder with our first show of the 2018 season. We have numerous actors who are ready to entertain you. The production is directed by Linda Carr and is sponsored by the Clinton Rotary and the Sampson County Arts Council. The production will feature people - young and old - from all over the region and I am sure you will love this timeless classic. Show dates are Friday, January 26 at 7:30 pm, Saturday, January 27 at 2:30 pm and 7:30 pm and Sunday, January 28 at 2:30 pm and then again on Thursday, February 1 at 7:30 pm, Friday, February 2 at 7:30 pm, Saturday, February 3 at 7:30 pm and then Sunday February 4 at 2:30 pm. Be sure to purchase tickets in advance so you will not miss your chance to see this wonderful production.



Be Our Guest - Tea with Belle and the Enchanted Objects is also an event that your young princes and princesses will love. On Saturday, January 20 the cast will be hosting a tea party for young people at the Small House. Come for Storytime with Belle, tea and lemonade, cupcakes, autographs and photos. There are three different sessions that you can take part in with our event. Times are 10 am, 11 am and 12 pm. If you would like to know more information and know how to reserve your spot please contact Linda Carr, 910-336-1111 or lindajewellanded@gmail.com - spots are limited so please call or email as soon as possible to get your little one's spot reserved.



"Beauty and the Beast" in rehearsal at Sampson Community Theatre

In rehearsal is Sampson Community Theatre's upcoming presentation of Disney's "Beauty and the Beast", proudly sponsored by The Clinton Rotary Club, music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice, book by Linda Wolverton, originally directed by Robert Jess Ross, originally produced by Disney Theatrical Productions, and directed by Linda Jewell Carr. Show dates are evenings: January 26, 27, February 1, 2, 3 at 7:30pm, with matinees on January 27, 28 and February 4 at 2:30pm, 2018. General admission is \$10.00. The theatre is located at 115 Fayetteville Street in Clinton, North Carolina. For more information call 910-592-8653. Check out our website at sampsoncommunitytheatre.org/

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Rated: PG for thematic elements including a brawl

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Starring Hugh Jackman, Michelle Williams, Zac Efron, Zendaya, Rebecca Ferguson

Fri 6:30p 8:30p Mon-Wed 6:30p
Sat & Sun 2:00p 4:00p 6:00p 8:00p



PROUD MARY

NOW SHOWING

Rated: R for violence

Mary is a hit woman working for an organized crime family in Boston. Her life is turned around completely when she meets a young boy whose path she crosses when a professional hit goes bad.

Starring Taraji P. Henson, Billy Brown, Jahi Di'Allo Winston, Neal McDonough, Margaret Avery, Xander Berkeley, Danny Glover.

Fri 6:30p 8:15p Mon-Wed 6:30p
Sat & Sun 2:00p 4:00p 6:00p 8:00p



PADDINGTON 2

NOW SHOWING

Rated: PG for some action and mild rude humor

The much-anticipated sequel to the worldwide hit family film finds Paddington happily settled with the Brown family in Windsor Gardens, where he has become a popular member of the community, spreading joy and marmalade wherever he goes. While searching for the perfect present for his beloved Aunt Lucy's hundredth birthday, Paddington spots a unique pop-up book in Mr. Gruber's antique shop, and embarks upon a series of odd jobs to buy it.

Fri 6:30p 8:30p Mon-Wed 6:30p
Sat & Sun 2:00p 4:00p 6:00p 8:00p



JUMANJI

NOW SHOWING

Rated: PG-13 for adventure action, suggestive content and some language

In a brand new Jumanji adventure, the tables are turned as four teenagers are sucked into Jumanji's world - pitted against rhinos, black mambas and an endless variety of jungle traps and puzzles. To survive, they'll play as characters from the game. To beat the game and return to the real world with their lives, they'll have to start seeing things in an entirely different way.

Fri 6:30p Mon-Wed 6:30p
Sat & Sun 2:00p 4:30p 7:00p



Insidious: The Last Key

NOW SHOWING

Rated: PG-13 for disturbing thematic content, violence and terror, and brief strong language

Dr. Elise Rainier, the brilliant parapsychologist, faces her most fearsome and personal haunting yet: in her own family home.

Starring Lin Shaye, Angus Sampson, Leigh Whannell, Josh Stewart, Caitlin Gerard, Kirk Acevedo, Javier Botet, Bruce Davison, Spencer Locke, Tessa Ferrer, Ava Kolker, Marcus Henderson

Fri 6:30p 8:30p Mon-Wed 6:30p
Sat & Sun 2:00p 4:00p 6:00p 8:00p

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Midway's Brayden Coats On The Right Track For Success

Midway High School track standout Brayden Coats said he was caught by surprise when he was told his coaches (Brian Wallum and Beth Best) nominated him for this week's Performance Auto/Sampson Weekly Star Athlete of the Week Award.

"I really had no idea," the 16-year-old junior said late Wednesday evening. "I am really surprised to get this award ... It makes me feel really good that they thought enough of me to even nominate me."

In addition to his incredible abilities on the track (Coats and his teammates on the 4x200m and 4x400m relay teams have already qualified to participate in the upcoming NCHSAA State Track Championships), Coats is a competitive, determined young man, who carries himself with respect and is not one to complain, just gets the job done with a positive attitude.

While he is featured in the relay events, Coats has also participated in the 500m (1:28:30); the Long Jump (17-1.5); the 300m (39:54); and the 5K (25:33.60).

"I do whatever my coaches need me to do," the 6 feet, 125-pound Coats said. "If they need me to compete in an event for points, then I will. Mostly, I run in the relay events, but it's all about what I can do for the team."

With a few meets still on the schedule, some postponed because of weather, the team is working to not lose any momentum going into the conference meets.

"The weather has been crazy," admits Coats. "Right now, we don't know if those meets will be made up or not. I am just watching what I eat and am remaining active."

The trip to state championships is the first for Coats. "I am very excited to compete at that level," he said. "It's my first time going to state and I am excited about this new experience."

Coats said that the team has been working hard since qualifying earlier this season.

"We have been working together in practices and we have been getting better," Coats admits. "We have a great team chemistry and we are pushing to continue to get better times."

A Sampson County native, Coats began his foray into sports when he was little, playing recreation ball.

"I started playing sports when I was about four," Coats remembers. "I started playing T-Ball and then I played travel ball from ages 9 to 14."

In his freshman year at Midway High, Coats ran Cross Country, but didn't like running the terrain or the long distances.

"Honestly, I really didn't like to run the long distances," he admitted. "It was miles and you were running all over the place. I always knew I could run, I just felt more comfortable running shorter distances."

Since finishing that first season of cross country, Coats has been running on the Raider Track and Field team. He also is an outfielder for the Raider baseball team.

"One complements the other," he said. "I have noticed that since I started running, I have gotten a lot faster in baseball."

Last season, the Raider baseball team finished 16-7 overall and 12-2 in the conference. The team recently started workouts.

"We already have our goal set for the season," Coats admits. "We all are coming in wanting to get that championship ring. That is our focus right at the start."

It also helps that Coats and his teammates have been

playing together since those old rec ball days.

"We understand each other on the field because we know each other so well," Coats explains. "It is like that because we have played together almost all of our lives. We have a good chemistry on and off the field and that works to our advantage when we are playing."

As talented as he is on the track and baseball field, Coats is also a talented musician. He plays tenor saxophone in the mighty Midway Raider Marching Band.

"I have been in band since the seventh grade," he said. "I really enjoy marching band. It is a lot of work, it gets hot and there are a lot of things to remember ... But I absolutely love it."

Coats was inspired to play from close friend William Warren.

"He was four years older than me and I always looked up to him in everything we did," Coats said. "He made me want to play baseball, participate in Boy Scouts (Coats earned Eagle Scout status) and sax - it was a respect thing. He made me want to be the best. I can remember Will playing saxophone and once I heard him play, I was dead set on playing it too. Once I did, I just loved it and I stuck with it."

That determination and desire has played a crucial role in his life.

"I have always really valued education," Coats explains. "From a young age, I have always wanted to be intelligent. I knew early on that in order to be the best version of yourself, you have to have education and take it seriously."

To that point, throughout his entire educational career, Coats has never made below an 'A'.

He says his favorite subject is math and science.

"I have always loved working with numbers," Coats said. "I always have worked with numbers in my head and it really helped when I had a great chemistry teacher (Mrs. Karen Collier). She helped it make it my favorite subject."

Although he is still a year and a half away from leaving Midway High, Coats admits crossing that stage will be his first step in moving on.

"Oh, I know it is going to be bittersweet for me," he said. "I have known all of these people all my life. So, it is going to be hard to leave, but I know a lot of the friendships that I have will last and college will be a clean slate; a new start."

Coats said he is already planning on attending college, hoping that he will get in to UNC-W or Anderson University (in South Carolina) to major in music or accounting.

"Ever since I was little, I have always dreamt of having two options for college," he explained. "My first option, I guess you could say, would be UNC-W. I like the location - near the beach - and a lot of my friends are going there, and I always liked the idea of being there and playing baseball."

He continued, "My other choice is Anderson University. It is like the School of the Arts of South Carolina. It is Christian-based, so if I went there I would go to work on a music ministry degree."

Coats is not sure if he will play baseball in college, but is sure he will run to keep in shape.

"I will be running forever," he said with a laugh.

More recently, Coats has learned to play the bass guitar for his church worship team.



"When I was a kid I was in choir and heavily involved in our Children's Church," he said. "Our praise leader is the co-pastor and they asked me if I was interested in playing bass. I just started learning how to play over the past two months. It has been a really fun experience for me."

When talking to Coats it is easy to see why he is an inspiration of others. He is honest, straight-forward and open to others, while being easy to talk to.

When asked what advice he would give to an upcoming freshman, Coats doesn't hesitate, "I would tell them to look at it as a new start," he says. "You have so many options, you just have to come in and focus on your plan. Be active and try new things and don't quit. Keep trying things that you start. Even if it turns out that you don't like it, there is no harm in trying."

The best piece of advice Coats has ever gotten was from his mother, Shannon. "She told me that it all comes down to the choices you make in life. When you come to a fork in the road - you can go either way, you have to make smart choices. You have to be conscience of what you choose."

One thing that has been constant in his life is the support he has received.

"First and foremost, I would like to say how thankful I am for my Lord, Jesus Christ," Coats said. "He has really helped guide me through my life's journey and my walk in faith. He has really helped me."

In addition, Coats wanted to thank his parents (Shannon and Charles) for all of their support.

"They have been there all the way," he said. "It's everything that I do. They have been at every meet; every game; every marching band show ... I just really appreciate all that they have done for me."

Coats said that he also appreciates the support of his coaches (Wallum, Best, Fussell and Tart), all of his teammates, all of his friends and Will Warren and Cole Register.

He finished by thanking all of the educators that have passed through his life.

"I want to thank every teacher that I have ever had," Coats said with sincerity. "I think that they don't get enough credit. I have teachers that just don't teach in the classroom, they teach you lessons in life. I think a lot of times they don't get credit and I want them to know how much it is appreciated."

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SPORTS

The Sampson Weekly

Local Area
High School
Basketball Results Clinton High SchoolMen

- 01/12 Wallace-Rose Hill
86-57 (W)
- 01/10 Goldsboro
81-41 (W)

Women

- 01/12 Wallace-Rose Hill
43-51 (L)
- 01/10 Goldsboro
37-35 (W)

 Harrells ChristianMen

- 01/16 Coastal Christian
56-84 (L)
- 01/13 East Wake
49-51 (L)

Women

- 01/16 Coastal Christian
30-23 (W)
- 01/12 Cape Fear Academy
17-44 (L)

 Hobpton High SchoolMen

- 01/15 Union
55-63 (L)
- 01/12 North Duplin
61-67 (L)

Women

- 01/15 Union
55-63 (L)
- 01/12 North Duplin
61-67 (L)

 Lakewood High SchoolMen

- 01/12 Princeton
40-47 (L)
- 01/10 Hobpton
51-54 (L)

Women

- 01/03 Princeton
42-38 (W)
- 01/10 Hobpton
52-14 (W)

 Midway High SchoolMen

- 01/11 James Kenan
52-76 (L)
- 01/02 Clinton
53-86 (L)

Women

- 01/11 James Kenan
62-34 (W)
- 01/02 Clinton
85-51 (W)
- 12/22 Clinton
69-42 (W)

 Union High SchoolMen

- 01/15 Hobpton
63-55 (W)
- 01/11 Neuse Charter
79-77 (W)
- 01/02 North Duplin
63-67 (L)

Women

- 01/11 Neuse Charter
31-67 (L)
- 01/02 North Duplin
48-37 (W)

The Crusader Sports Chronicle



By Aidan Kunst

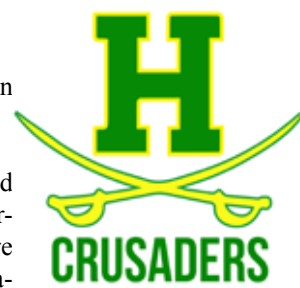
The Harrells Christian Academy basketball teams competed again this week, as each team saw action.

The HCA boys' varsity team played four games this week, and their record bumped up to 9-7. The first was against Arendell Parrott Academy. They beat Parrott by a score of 76-72. Sophomore Marcus Boykin poured in 23 points, while sophomore guard Javarus Keith had 17 points. The team then fell to Cape Fear Academy 63-54. Boykin had 20 points and 7 boards, while Jalen Miller added 13 points. Their next game was against East Wake, which they lost 51-49. Once again Boykin had 20, this time with 9 rebounds, and Miller again scored 13. To end the week, the team lost to Coastal Christian 84-56. Junior Malik Killett scored 15 points and Jabari's Keith had 14. They will attempt to get

back in the win column Friday vs. St David's.

The varsity girls team took one out of four games this week and improved their record to 3-9, as they beat Coastal 30-23. They also suffered some losses over the week. They lost to Cape Fear 44-17, and to Parrott 34-20. Senior Sydney Norris scored 7 points in the win over Coastal. They look to build off the win Friday vs. Saint David's.

The JV boys' basketball team kept its now 11-game winning streak, and 11-1 record, alive this week with wins over Parrott, Coastal, and Cape Fear. They will try to make it 12 straight on Friday vs. Saint David's.

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Mintz Christian Academy Awards



Perfect Attendance

Top Row Left to Right... Emma White, Sarah White, Taylor Faircloth, Rachel Lewis, Madison Hall, Gabby Walters, Leah Wheeler, John Wanner, Lexi Melton (not pictured), Britney Christianson, Second Row Left to Right... Ashton Brown, Eli Neal, Blake Christianson, Michael Miller, Wyatt Neal, Chloe Faircloth, Kate Wanner, Abby Walters, Third Row Left to Right... Nathan Neal, Audrey Rich, Ben Neal, Caillou Crosby, Cullen Lewis, Brian Christianson, Bottom Row Left to Right... Craig Peterson, Harrison Lewis, Trey Grantham, Henley Moore, Corban Neal.



Terrific Kid

Left to Right: Foster Smith, Connor Jones, Baylee Edge, Fisher King, McKenzie Street, Tyler Faircloth, Kailey Allen.



Academic Buttons

Top Row Left to Right: Chloe Faircloth, Katy Hales, Raegan Cooke, Peyton Cashwell, Baylee Hardgrove, Sheriana McLamb, Bottom Row Left to Right: Eliza Clair Butler, Reece Jones, Christopher Turner, Landon Edwards, Zoey Faircloth, Nella Barefoot.



Principal's List (All A's on Report Card)

Top Row Left to Right... Dakota Warren, Callie White, Daniel Matthews, Katelyn Fann, Emma White, Second Row Left to Right... Jerryanna Butler, Mackenzie Small, Mallory Edwards, Ciera Ellis, Ashton Brown, Zachary Honeycutt, Sydney Ross. Bottom Row Left to Right... Victoria Barrier, Landry Beasley, Victoria Crumpler, Cullen Lewis, McKenzie Street, Ava Wainscott, Hollin Autry.



Teacher Honor Roll (A Average)

Top Row Left to Right... Lila White, Caroline Matthews, Jacob Shirley, Evan Plant, Rachel Lewis, Madison Hall, Cassidy Rushing, JeriAnne Rushing (not pictured), Leah Wheeler, Second Row Left to Right... Kate Wanner, Abby Walters, Emerson Smith, Audrey Rich, Gabby Walters, Nathan Neal, Gracie Honeycutt, Aubrey Herring, Noah Faircloth, Bottom Row Left to Right... Henry Bass, Liam Lambert, Kaylee Irvin, Caleb Honrine-Harris, Matthew Vallini (not pictured).



High School / Middle School Honor Roll (B Average)

Top Row Left to Right... Cameron Knowles, Joshua Davis, Courtney Barber, Katelynn Owens, Kyndall Owens, Justin Lucas, Zoie Warren, Second Row Left to Right... Reagan Warren, Merideth Royal, Hanna Brown, Sarah Beth White, Brantley Butler, Taylor Faircloth, Alexis Shirley, Third Row Left to Right... Matthew Davis, Hailey Davis, Victoria Marshburn, Jake White, James Naylor, John Wanner, Nate Small, Bottom Row Left to Right... Erynn Sessoms, Victoria White, Hunter Jackson, Gracie Doan-Naylor, Cayden Herring, Emily Hughes, Kaylee Johnson, Olivia Pope, Britney Christianson, Connor Bullard.



Elementary Honor Roll (B Average)

Top Row Left to Right... Eli Neal, Michael Miller, Reeves Fretwell, Josilynn Edge, Blake Christianson, Brayden Autry, Second Row Left to Right... Ben Neal, Tyler Faircloth, Jake Ezzell, Grace Faircloth, Lacey Komegay, Joey Doan-Naylor, Peyton Beasley, Caillou Crosby. Bottom Row Left to Right... Drake Sinclair, Brian Christianson, Gavin Hairr (not pictured), Jessie Warren.



Duke Tips (Students in grades 4-7 who scored 95 National Percentile or above on the standardized test Terra Nova in either Reading, Language, Math, Science or Social Studies)
Top Row Left to Right... Jake White, Cayden Herring, Second Row Left to Right... Emerson Smith, Mallory Edwards, Brantley Butler, Ciera Ellis, Meredith Herring, Dakota Warren, Last Row Left to Right... Hollin Autry, Henry Bass, Jerryanna Butler, Jake Ezzell, Grace Faircloth, Aubrey Herring, Gracie Honeycutt.



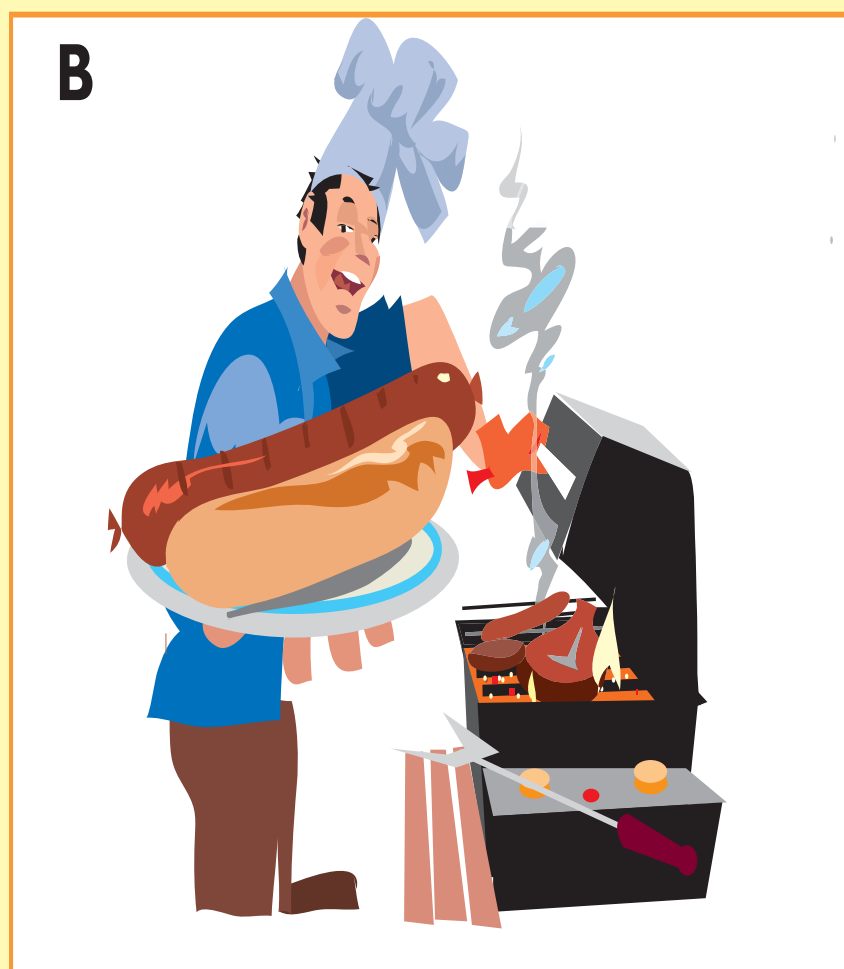
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What's the Difference?

There are five things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. Fork is turned the other way 2. Chef hat is bigger 3. Background square missing 4. Not wearing apron 5. Larger flame

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1946:** THE U.S. TESTS THE FIRST UNDERWATER ATOMIC BOMB. THE TEST TAKES PLACE AT BIKINI ATOLL.
- **1978:** LOUISE BROWN, THE WORLD'S FIRST "TEST TUBE BABY," IS BORN.
- **2000:** AIR FRANCE FLIGHT 4590, A CONCORDE PASSENGER JET, CRASHES AFTER TAKEOFF NEAR PARIS.



IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS TYPE OF COOKING — OVER AN OPEN FLAME — ORIGINATED IN THE CARRIBBEAN.

ANSWER: BARBECUE



char

partially burn to blacken the surface

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Cook

SPANISH: Cocinero

ITALIAN: Cuoco

FRENCH: Cuisinier

GERMAN: Koch

Did You Know?

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GET THE PICTURE?

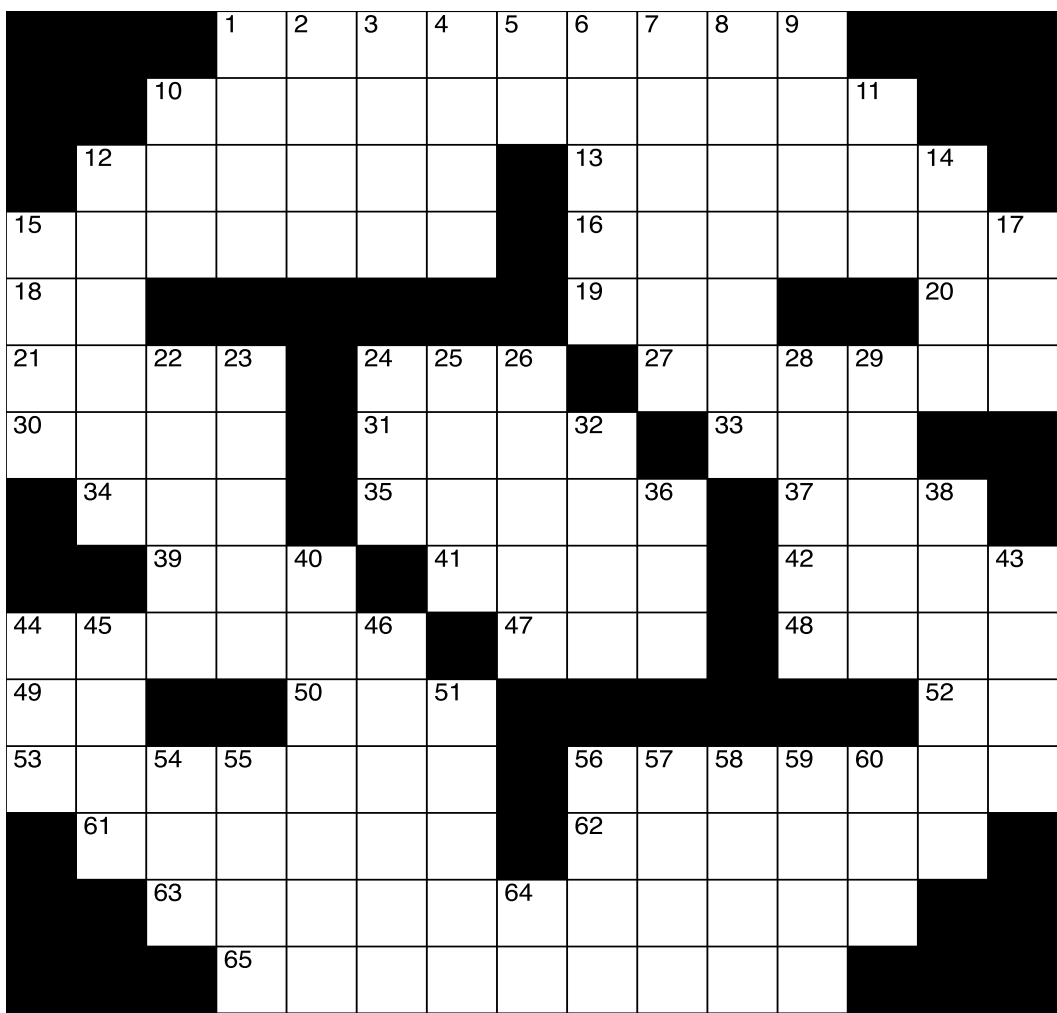


Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: RAINBOW

PUZZLES & GAMES

Crossword Puzzle

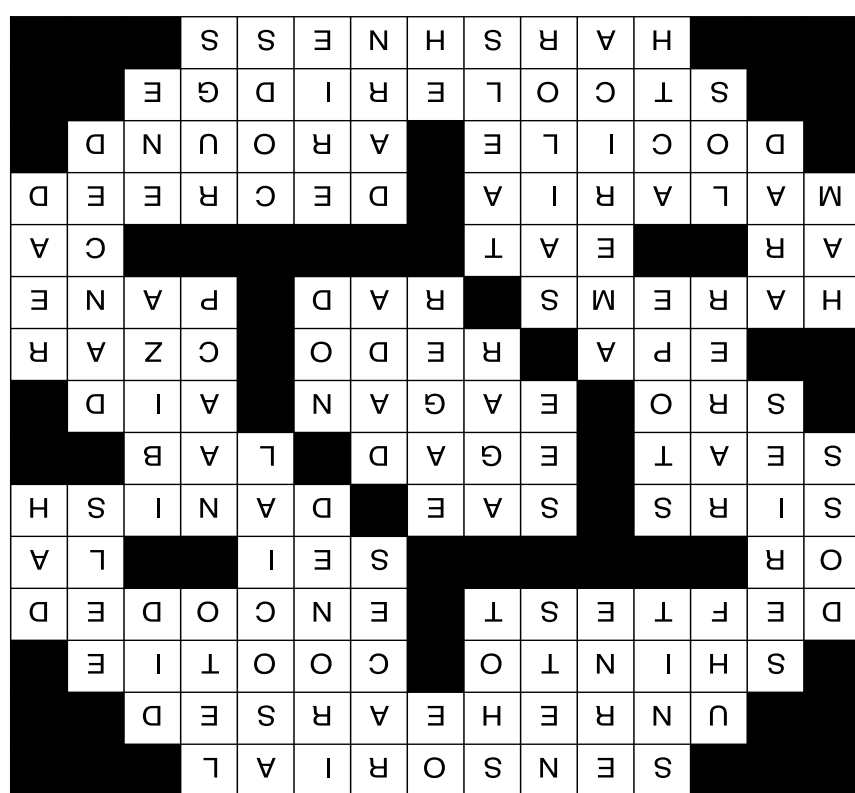


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Derived from senses
- 10. Extemporaneous
- 12. Japanese religion
- 13. Body louse (slang)
- 15. Most adroit
- 16. Formatted electronic data
- 18. An alternative
- 19. 3rd largest whale
- 20. 6th tone
- 21. Gentlemen
- 24. Car mechanics group
- 27. Breakfast pastry
- 30. Where one sits
- 31. Oh, God!
- 33. Scientific workplace
- 34. No seats available
- 35. MN 55120
- 37. Assistance
- 39. Environmental Protection Agency
- 41. Reconstruct
- 42. Russian ruler
- 44. Female Muslim quarters
- 47. Radioactivity unit
- 48. Window glass
- 49. Atomic #18
- 50. Consume
- 52. The golden state
- 53. Mosquito disease
- 56. Authoritatively ordered
- 61. Yielding
- 62. On all sides
- 63. Br. romantic poet
- 65. Cruel vocal quality

CLUES DOWN

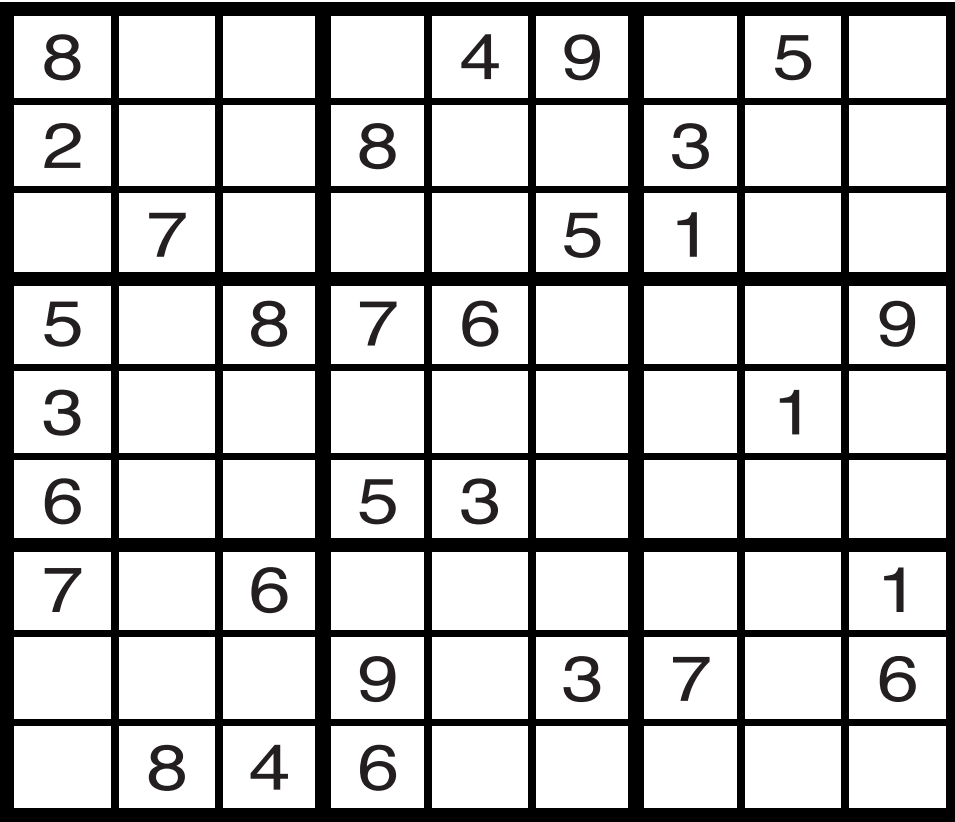
- 1. Irritated state
- 2. Sea eagle
- 3. Fish capturing devices
- 4. An informal photograph
- 5. Old English
- 6. Competes
- 7. Pressed a shirt
- 8. Averse to others
- 9. Mother of Apollo
- 10. Radio frequency
- 11. Have already done
- 12. Baseball championship playoffs
- World __
- 14. Snakelike fishes
- 15. Br. slang for sleep
- 17. Telegraphic signal
- 22. More scarce
- 23. Step excavation of ore
- 24. Envision
- 25. A gelling agent in foods
- 26. Impatient expectancy
- 28. Civil Rights group
- 29. 3rd largest Balearic island
- 32. Mama's partner
- 36. Head gesture
- 38. Moved to music
- 40. N. & S. of the new world
- 43. Discern the written word
- 44. Thigh of a hog
- 45. Mures river city
- 46. Crew member
- 51. Liang weight units
- 54. __ Angeles
- 55. Adrenocorticotropin
- 56. Mend a sock
- 57. Shallowest Great lake
- 58. Gadidae fish
- 59. Area floor coverings
- 60. Point midway between NE and E
- 64. "You know" in Canada



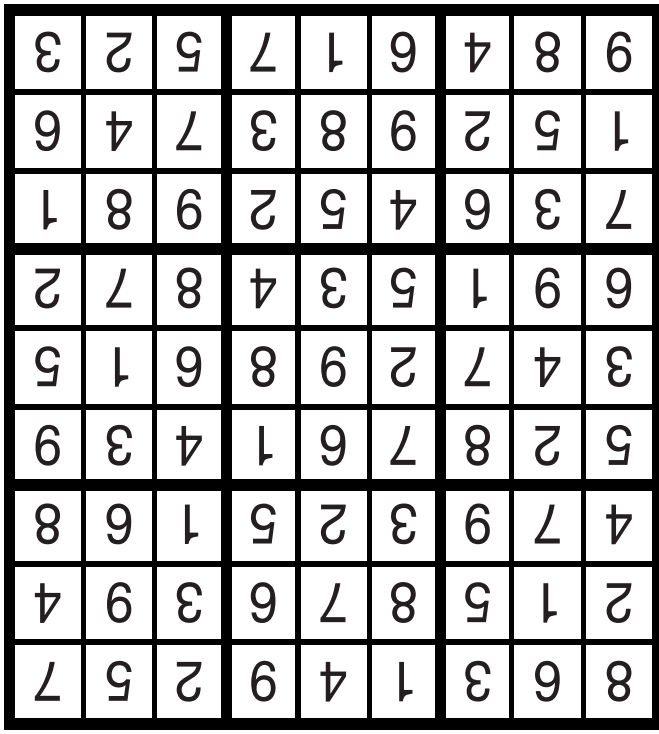
SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

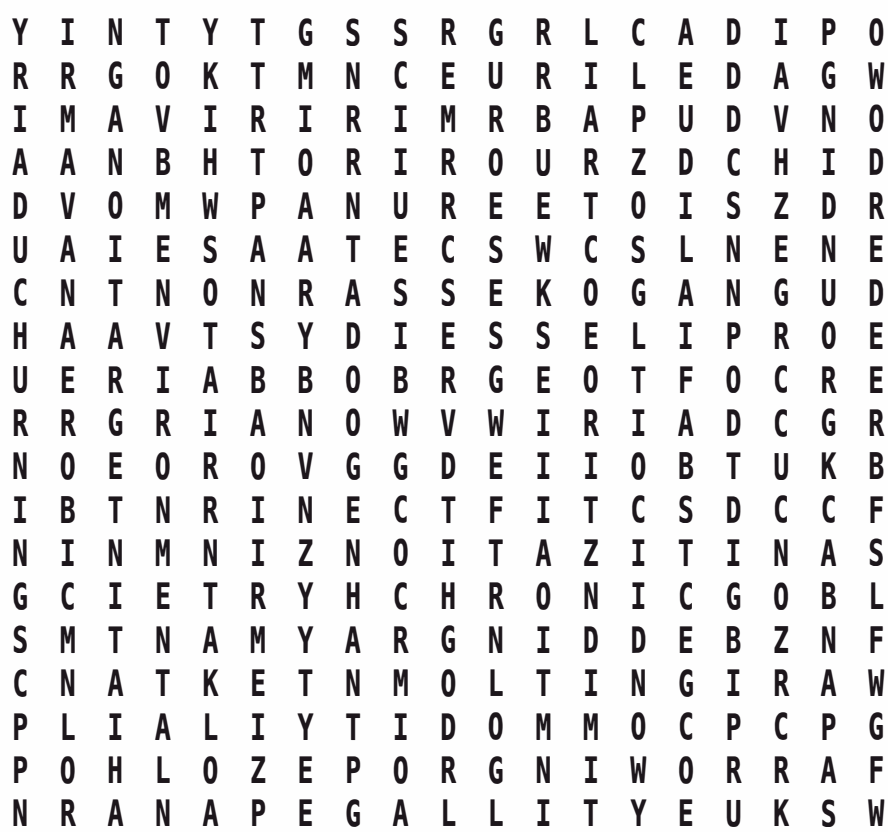
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.



Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



AGRICULTURE WORD SEARCH



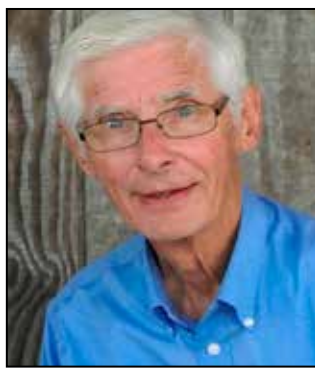
- ACRE
- AEROBIC
- ALLEY
- ANAEROBIC
- BACKGROUNDING
- BARN
- BEDDING
- BIOSECURITY
- BOVINE
- BREEDER
- CHRONIC
- CHURNING
- COMMODITY
- CROPS
- CULL
- DAIRY
- DEPRESSION
- DRAWBAR
- ENVIRONMENT
- EROSION
- FARROWING
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OBITUARIES

COLUMBIA, SC

Ronald Edward Barber, Sr. was born October 25, 1933, and died January 16, 2018 at the age of 84. He was the son of the late Hilda Bass Barber and Edward Barber. Mr. Barber grew up in the home of his maternal grandmother, Momma Bass in Clinton, NC where he was active



in scouting and rose to the rank of Eagle Scout with Bronze Palm. He graduated in 1955 from the University of North Carolina School of Pharmacy and began his first job as a pharmacist in North Carolina. In 1957, he was commissioned as 2nd Lt. in the US Army and received officer's training at Fort Sam Houston. He was transferred to Wurzburg, Germany to 10th Field Hospital where he was promoted to 1st Lt. and assigned as commanding officer of the 549th MED. CO. (AMB.)(SEP.). Back in the states, he was promoted to Captain and Honorably Discharged in 1965. On August 3, 1956, Mr. Barber married his sweetheart, Sandra Jean Peterson, of Clinton, NC whom he had been friends with since 2nd grade. He carried her senior high school picture in his wallet until his death. They had three children, Ron Barber Jr. (Amy McQuilkin Barber), Cameron Jones (Steven Jones) and Alison Gratton (George Gratton); nine grandchildren, Natasha Broucek (DJ), Stephanie Barber, Justin Barber (Nidhi), David Jones (Claire), Joseph Jones (Jennifer), Daniel Jones, Christiana Jones, Mary Grace Jones, Jesse Jones; and seven great-grandchildren. In May 1964, he acquired Liggett Rexall Drug in Columbia, SC which he then expanded into various business ventures, including being a managing partner of a 400-bed nursing home. He had resolved early in his career to be a good steward with what the Lord had entrusted to him and shared this vision with a small group of Christian businessmen who also wanted to honor the Lord in business. His support of foreign missions was demonstrated through hospitality and generosity. He also enjoyed serving on the advisory board of Columbia International University under President Robertson McQuilkin. He was an active and well-loved member of St. Andrews Evangelical Church. He greatly enjoyed his grandchildren and great-grandchildren and invested in them in many ways which included time spent and wisdom shared. The service for Mr. Barber will be held 11 o'clock, Saturday, January 20th at St. Andrew's Evangelical Church with the Rev. Donald L. Burnett, Jr. officiating. The family will receive friends Friday evening from 5 until 7 o'clock at Shives Funeral Home, Trenholm Road Chapel, 7600 Trenholm Road Ext., Columbia. A graveside service will be held 2 o'clock, Sunday, January 21st at Clinton Cemetery in Clinton, NC. In lieu of flowers, gifts can be made to St. Andrews Evangelical Church, Building Fund, 2609 Seminole Road, Columbia, SC 29210 or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Memories and condolences may also be shared at ShivesFuneralHome.com.

DUNN

Mr. James Martin Bunnell, 59, of Dunn died Tuesday morning January 16, 2018 at his son's home. James was born August 8, 1958 in Harnett County, son of the late Malcolm Bunnell and Mamie Stancil Bunnell Hernandez. He was also preceded in death by his sister, Carolyn Sue Smith. James had attended South Johnston High School and had worked for Smithfield Packing in Clinton. A funeral service will be held 2 p.m., Saturday, January 20, 2018 at Skinner & Smith Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Jimmy Hall officiating. Burial will follow at Hodges Chapel Church Cemetery. He is survived by his son, Jimmy Martin Bunnell of Dunn; brothers, Tony Bunnell and wife Tina of Dunn, Gary Bunnell of Dunn, Wayne Bunnell of Benson; sister, Joyce Bass of Clinton and several nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends 1-2 p.m. Saturday at Skinner & Smith Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to Skinner & Smith Funeral Home 905 Erwin Rd. Dunn.



ROSEBORO

Mr. Ronald Glenn Carlisle, 51 of Roseboro, passed away on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at Rex Hospital in Raleigh. The funeral service was held at 2:00 pm Saturday, January 13, at Butler Funeral Home, 401 W. Roseboro Street, Roseboro, with Rev. Alma Rabon officiating. Burial followed at the Mac Autry Cemetery. Born December 22, 1966 in Sampson County, he was the son of Bruce and Sandra Hall Carlisle. He is preceded in death by his father. He is survived by his wife, Deborah Morgan Carlisle of the home; daughters, Deanna Ashford and Derrell, Glenna Carlisle, Marissa Boughton and Joe all of Roseboro; his mother, Sandra Carlisle of Autryville; sister, Kimberly Carlisle of Roseboro; step-sisters, Christy Tierney and husband Shannon of Goldsboro, Misty Jernigan and husband Don of Spivey's Corner; grandchildren, E'Nila "Mooka", Mariyus "Peanut", Zaylyn "Bubba", Glendon "Fred", Kendrick "Lamont"; sister-in-law, Monica Tanner and husband Kevin of Roseboro; and several nieces, nephews, and a great niece, Ariana. The family received friends from 6:00 to 8:00 pm Friday, January 12, at Butler Funeral Home, Roseboro. Services are by Butler Funeral Home of Roseboro, NC.



GARLAND

Mr. David Dabbs 78 of 44 N. Ingold Ave. Garland, died

Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at Bladen Co. Hospital in Elizabethtown, NC. Funeral service 2:00 P.M. Friday, Jan. 19, at Carter Funeral Home. Burial will follow in the Dabbs Family Cemetery. Family will receive friends on Thursday, Jan. 18, from 6:00P.M.-8:00P.M. at Carter Funeral Home in Garland.



NASHVILLE, GA

Sarah Katrina Garcia, 59, of Nashville, Georgia formerly Sampson County passed away on Thursday, January 11, 2018. Mrs. Garcia's graveside service was Wednesday, January 17 at 1 p.m. in Hillcrest Cemetery, Newton Grove, N.C. The service was officiated by the Rev. Sherrill Boykin. Left to cherish her memories are her husband Salome Garcia of Georgia, Her children, Krystal Johnston of Virginia, Katie Berger of Virginia and Jonathan Garcia of Georgia. She has four grandchildren, a brother, Roy Horne, Jr. and sisters, Judy Williams, Barbara Gohlsom and Rose Preston. Online condolences may be made at www.westanddunn.com. Services have been entrusted to West & Dunn Funeral Home of Newton Grove, North Carolina



FAISON

Mr. Franklin "Sherrill" Jackson, 76, of 6780 Suttontown Road, Faison passed away Friday, January 12, 2018. Mr. Sherrill's career was spent as a salesman in the farming equipment industry. His funeral service was held Sunday, January 14, 2018 at Goshen United Methodist Church in Newton Grove with visitation at the church from 1:30 till 2:45 prior to the service. Mr. Sherrill was laid to rest in Hillcrest Cemetery in Newton Grove. Left to cherish his memories are his daughter, Robin Walston and husband Jerry D. from Faison, granddaughter Sarah Rachel Price and grandson Zachary Sherrill Walston. Mr. Sherrill was preceded in death by his wife, Katrina S. Jackson, his parents Frank and Dorothy Jackson and brother Jerry B. Jackson. Memorials may be made to Goshen UM Church 2765 Suttontown Road, Newton Grove, NC 28366 or to The Children Home Society of N.C. 920 Woodbridge Park Road, Greenville N.C. 27834. Online condolences may be made at www.westanddunn.com. A Service of West & Dunn Funeral Home of Newton Grove, North Carolina



CLINTON

Antionette Lyles, April 6, 1959 ~ January 9, 2018, Age-58, 14 Andrews Chapel Rd. died Tuesday 1/9/18 at Sampson Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held on Saturday 1/13/18 at 1pm-Little Piney Grove MBC, Clinton, N.C. Interment in the Hillcrest Cemetery, Clinton, N.C. Visitation was held on Friday 1/12/18, 1 to 6pm, family present 5 to 6pm. Butler & Son Funeral Services, Clinton, N.C.



CLINTON

Mr. Clarence Robert McLaurin, 90, of 872 Isaac Road, passed away Friday, January 12, 2018 at home. The funeral service was held at 1:30pm, Wednesday, January 17 at Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, Clinton with Bishop Varnie N. Fullwood officiating. Burial in the church cemetery. Mr. McLaurin is survived by his wife, Bessie McLaurin of the home; daughter, Brenda Taylor of Winston-Salem, NC; sons, Robert Glen McLaurin of Selma, NC and Derwood McLaurin of Winston-Salem, NC; 9 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Visitation was held from 2pm - 6pm, Tuesday, January 16 at Worley Funeral Home. Online condolences may be sent to www.worleyfuneralhomeinc.com.



AUTRYVILLE

Mrs. Romelia Autry Hall Stanley, 84 of Autryville, passed away Saturday, January 13, 2018 at her home. Funeral services were held at 2:00pm Monday, January 15, 2018 at Butler Funeral Home, Roseboro, with Rev. Paul Honeycutt and Michael Hall officiating. Burial followed at Salemburg Cemetery. The family received friends from 12:00pm to 1:45pm Monday prior to the service and at other times at 136 Libbie Road, Autryville, NC 28318. She is preceded in death by her parents, Ballard B. Autry and Maggie Pearl Autry; first husband, O.G. (Joe) Hall; daughters, Jackie Brock Jackson and Roleshia Hall



Alexander; grandchild, Stacey Ray Brock, Jr.; sisters, Ruth Eris Tyndall, Margaret (Pachie) Lee Johnson, Janie Sova and Elizabeth Sessoms; and brothers, Grover Autry, Earl Clayton Autry and Wiley B. Autry. She is survived by her husband, Porter Stanley, Jr. of the home; daughters, Betty Rose Hall & husband, O.B. Hall, Jr. of Autryville and Penny Hall Smith & husband, Lee Smith of Newton Grove; sisters, Honesta Faircloth and Bertie Mae Daniels both of Autryville and Kitty Klug of North Dakota; 7 grandchildren, Brian Hall, Michael Hall, Elise Caldwell Childers, Guy J. Alexander, III, Tiffany Dawn Alexander, Erica Hall and Christopher Brock; 5 great grandchildren and son-in-law, Terry Jackson. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 401 W. Roseboro St., Roseboro, NC 28382.

GARLAND

Mr. Myron Storms of 15813 US Hwy. 701 N., died Saturday January 13, 2018 at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, NC. Mr. Storms was born December 02, 1947 the son of the late, George A. Storms & Effie Jones Storms, He was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia "Jenny" E. Storms. Funeral service was held at 2:00 P.M. Wednesday, January 17, 2017 at Riverside Baptist Church by the Reverend Scott Conner. Burial followed in the Cromartie Cemetery. Mr. Storms is survived by two Sons, Michael Storms (Debbie) of Clarkton, Brian Storms (Crystal) of Clarkton 2 Grandchildren: Melynda Storms, Brittany Simmons, 2 Great-Grandchildren: Hunter Simmons, Hayleigh Simmons. The family received friends on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 from 6:00P.M.-8:00P.M. at Carter Funeral Home in Garland.



GREENSBORO

Mr. Embrey "Cat" Boykin, 64, of Greensboro, NC, formerly of Clinton, NC, passed away Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at Maple Grove Health and Rehab Center, Greensboro, NC. The funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time.

ROSEBORO

EDNA M. FARMER, JULY 10, 1926 ~ JANUARY 16, 2018 Age-91, 1186 Derbyshire Rd. died Tuesday 1/16/18 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. Funeral Services will be Tuesday 1/23/18 at 11 am. Butler & Son Funeral Home Chapel, Roseboro, N.C. Visitation 1 hour prior to the services.

FLORIDA

Jean Evelyn Lockamy, formerly of Clinton, passed away Saturday, January 13, 2018, in Florida. Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced as they become available

AUTRYVILLE

Herman Simpson, December 17, 1934 ~ January 10, 2018 Age-83, 4771 Autry Hwy. Autryville, N.C. died Wednesday 1/10/18 at home. Funeral services were held on Monday 1/15/18, 1pm, Sam Spring AME Zion Church, Roseboro, N.C. Interment in the Roseboro Cemetery. Visitation Sunday 1/14/18, 1 to 6pm, family present 5 to 6pm. Butler & Son Funeral Home, Roseboro, N.C.

CLINTON

Hildred W. West, 98, of Southwood Nursing Center, Clinton, N.C. formerly of Timothy Road, Dunn, N.C. passed away today, Friday January 12th, surrounded by her loving family. Mrs. West graveside service will be held Monday, January 15, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at Shady Grove OFWB Church Cemetery in Newton Grove. The family will receive family and friends at West & Dunn Funeral Home, Newton Grove from 1 till 2 PM just prior to the graveside service. Left to cherish her memories are her daughters Sue Munn of Dunn and Nell Britt and husband Thomas of Clover S.C. Daughter-in-law Jean West of Raleigh. Mrs. West is also survived by seven grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and 1 great great grandchild. She is preceded in death by her husband, Allen Forrest West, parents Alfred and Lettie S. West and three sons, Larry, Alfred and Jamey West. Also, a grandson, Joey West. Memorials may be made in her memory to Shady Grove OFWB Church, 7541 Newton Grove Highway, Dunn, N.C., 28334 Online condolences may be made at www.westanddunn.com. Services have been entrusted to West & Dunn Funeral Homes, Inc. Newton Grove, North Carolina

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CRIME

Arrest Reports
 01-11 Andrew Patrick Cerda, 26; 594 C Lee Johnson Rd., Dunn; Parole & Probation Violations; Secured Bond \$10,000; Court Date 02-14
 01-11 Jackie Lynn Gregory, 28; 1080 George Perry Rd., Dunn; 2nd Degree Arson; Secured Bond \$35,000; Court Date 01-12
 01-11 Billy Joe Faircloth, 32; 981 Indian Town Rd., Clinton; Larceny; Possessing/ Concealing Stolen Property; Secured Bond \$10,000; Court Date 01-12
 01-11 Eric Franklin Gautier, 40; 253 Greentree Lane, Clinton; Order for Arrest/Failure to Appear- Child Support; Court Date 01-16
 01-11 Clifton Mckain Meneely, 39; 131 Coty Lane, Four Oaks; Failure to Appear- Release Order; Secured Bond \$2,000; Court Date 02-12
 01-11 Hassan Raheen Olivo, 43; 316 Burnette Circle, Pittsboro; Trafficking in Cocaine by Possession; Trafficking in Cocaine by Transport; Possession with Intent to Sell/Deliver; Cocaine; Maintain Vehicle for Place Controlled Substance; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; Secured Bond \$250,000; Court Date 01-12
 01-11 Ginger Thornton Baggett, 38; 3559 Straw Pond School Rd., Roseboro; 6 Counts: Failure to Appear- Citation; Secured Bond \$2,000; Court Date 02-07
 01-11 Kenneth Harold Payne, 35; 710 W Main St., Clinton; Failure to Appear- Sell Schedule I Controlled Substance; Failure to Appear- Felony Probation Violation; Secured Bond \$25,000; Court Date 02-14
 01-11 Martize Alexander Blue, 43; 54 Jeanette Lane, Godwin; Flee/Elude Arrest with Motor Vehicle; Reckless Driving Wanton Disregard; DWLR Not Impaired Revoke; Possession with Intent to Sell/Deliver Cocaine; Possession with Intent to Sell/Deliver Marijuana; Possession MDMA (Ecstasy); Maintain Motor Vehicle; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; Secured Bond \$60,000; Court Date 01-12
 01-11 Hugo Sanchez Ramirez, 25; 31 Sanchez Lane, Clinton; Court Violations: Order for Arrest/Failure to Appear- Speeding; Resist, Delay, Obstruct Public Officer; Secured Bond \$1,100; Court Date 03-21
 01-11 Jimmy Ernest Lee, 52; 3192 Harnett-Dunn Hwy., Newton Grove; Contempt of Court, Perjury, Court Violations; No Bond; Court Date 01-24
 01-11 Wendy Jessica Partin, 36; 3179 Harnett-Dunn Hwy., Dunn; Trespassing; Communicating Threats; Secured Bond \$5,000; Court Date 01-24
 01-11 Terry Antoine Frederick, 34; 106 Endurance Lane, Dunn; 5 Counts: Drug Violations- All Other Drug Violations; Secured Bond \$50,000; Court Date 01-23
 01-12 Jose Luis Torres Perez, 22; 142 Miracle Lane, Clinton; Failure to Appear- Fail to Wear Seatbelt; Failure to Appear- No Operators License; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 02-05
 01-12 Jomille Antre Whitted, 39; 45 Angela Lane, Clinton; 2 Counts: Parole & Probation Violations; Secured Bond \$2,000; Court Date 02-07
 01-12 Andrew Patrick Cerda, 26; 219 Knollwood Lane, Roseboro; Parole & Probation Violations; Secured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 02-07
 01-12 Joshua Lee Odum, 29; 3409 Hayne Stretch Rd., Roseboro; Speeding; DWLR Not Impaired Revoked; Secured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 01-17
 01-13 April Morado Lopez, 25; 307 Mary marsh Lane, Newton Grove; DWI; Fail to Maintain Lane Control; Unsecured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 02-14
 01-14 Derrick Lamont Watson, 40; 2474 Autry Mill Rd., Godwin; Failure to Appear- DWLR Not Impaired Revoke; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 02-06
 01-14 Samuel Carroll Gray, 41; 40 Gill Lane, Clinton; Child Support; Failure to Appear- Possession with Intent to Manufacture/Sell/Deliver Methamphetamine; 2 Counts: Failure to Appear- Possess Drug Paraphernalia; Secured Bond \$102,000; Court Date 01-16
 01-15 Rodleck Dwaun Beatty, 30; 2932 Dr. Kerr Rd., Ivanhoe; 2 Counts: Assault with a Deadly Weapon Intent to Kill; 3 Counts: Discharge Weapon Occupied Vehicle; Harassing Phone Calls; Secured Bond \$150,500; Court Date 01-26
 01-16 Jose Noel Izguirre Inestroza, 42; 109 Carolina Ave., Clinton; Fraud- Impersonation; Secured Bond \$25,000; Court Date 01-26
 01-16 Maurice Thomas Tatum, 26; 2153 Herring Rd., Rose Hill; Failure to Appear- Financial Card Theft; Failure to Appear- Financial Card Fraud; Secured Bond \$5,000; Court Date 01-26
 01-16 Cajanda Tona Jackson, 27; 1225 Carroll Store Rd., Autryville; Communicating Threats; Misdemeanor Stalking; Written Promise to Appear; Court Date 01-18
 01-16 Sue Ellen Godbold, 35; 3284 Autrymill Rd., Godwin; Failure to Appear- DWLR; Failure to Appear- Drive Left of Center; Secured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 02-07
 01-17 Lachasity Jones, 32; 95 Pine Oak Lane, Dunn; Non-Support/Non-Payment of Alimony
 01-17 Daniel Wayne McLamb, 26; 65 Elwell Rd., Garland; Order for Arrest- Probation Violation Out of County; Secured Bond \$1,500; Court Date 02-14
 01-17 Isis Marie McRae Bowers, 40; 1165 Wilmington Rd., Turkey; Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle; Failure to Appear- DWLR Not Impaired Revoke; Failure to Appear- Felony Probation Out of County; Secured Bond \$4,000; Court Date 01-23
 01-17 Yolinda Denise Jordan-Ellis, 48; 402 S Railroad Ave., Dunn; Order for Arrest- Misdemeanor Probation Violation; Secured Bond \$10,000; Court Date 02-06
 01-17 Charles Jermaine Boykin, 31; 416 East Bay St., Warsaw; Failure to Appear- Misdemeanor Larceny; Secured Bond \$1,500; Court Date 02-14
 01-11 Ronnie Eason reported a Larceny located at 418 Southeast Blvd., Clinton. Items reported missing included a wallet, US Currency, bank cards, direct express card, food stamp card, social security card and a NC drivers license.
 01-12 Emily Graham reported the Larceny of a License Plate located at 443 McKoy St., Clinton.
 01-12 Marjorie Greenlee reported a Larceny located at 2212 Boren Brick Rd., Roseboro. Items reported missing included a custom Harley Davidson chainsaws, deer cameras and a custom deer/duck/turkey caller.
 01-13 Point Level Disciples Church reported the Larceny of a Water Pump located at 286 Vann Rd., Clinton.
 01-13 Strickland Farming reported a Larceny located at 671 Hollingsworth Rd., Mount Olive. Items reported missing included a 60 gallon fuel tank, fuel pump and two small tool boxes.
 01-13 Keith Williams reported the Larceny of a Utility Trailer located at 2965 White Woods Rd., Salemburg.
 01-14 Jimmy Lee reported a Burglary located at 3172 Harnett-Dunn Hwy., Newton Grove. Item reported missing a diamond ring.
 01-14 Beulah Baptist Church reported the Larceny of a Water pump located at 915 Beulah Church Rd., Turkey.
 01-15 Robert Davis reported a Burglary located at 303 E Pleasant St., Roseboro. No items were reported missing.
 01-15 Anthony Bass reported the Larceny of Cattle located at 8322 Tomahawk Hwy., Harrells.
 01-16 NAS Auto Sales reported the Theft of a Vehicle located at 10711 N US 421 Hwy., Clinton.

** The Crime Report is provided by the Sampson County Sheriff's Office and the Clinton City Police Department.*

Incident/Investigation Reports

Sampson County VITAL STATS

Deaths

- Wanda Agnes Anders
- Ida Mae Best
- Emma Golden Dixon
- Wilhelmenia Gore
- Thurston Little
- Marilynh Vernell Naylor
- Luis Andres Nieves-Trujillo
- Linda Owens
- Richard (Ricky) Carl Peterson
- Josh AleJandro Rodriguez
- James Edward Smith
- Clifford Andrews Sturdy
- Albert Glenn Stewart
- Josh Turcos Rodriguez
- Senie Wilson Williams
- Royce Harrell Williams

Births

- Yuliette Acosta Lara born on December 20, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Arrelyn Lizabeth Lara
- Karter Jo'Ell Payton born on December 20, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Terrance Terrell Payton and Syneshia Raygina Williams
- Mollie Jane Wheeler born on December 20, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Courtney Marie Wheeler
- Chloe Marie Hall born on December 21, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to James Daniel hall and Samantha Marie Sparhawk
- Malcolm Albert Harris born on December 21, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Kaitlyn Denise Harris
- Joel Antonio Pantoja-Lewis born on December 21, 2017 born at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Manuel Antonio Pantoja-Rivera and Amber Raygene Lewis
- Lana Lynn Wallace born on December 22, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Hannah Elizabeth Wallace
- Mariah Paige Boykin born on December 24, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Maria Shennette Boykin

Marriage Certificates

- Julian Soto Gomez to Diana Lisbet Lopez
- Eric Jerald Jernigan to Linda Jimenez
- William Edward Fussell to Shelli Danielle Warren
- Eduin Roberto Flores Escobar to Belkis Ivonne Streber Castellanos
- Israel Luna Jr to Allison Joanna Morales
- Jeffrey Hunter Burrell to Autumn Nicole Johnson
- Jessie Wayne Brown to Kimerly Ramirez Cruz
- Patrick Blake Smith to Hannah Brooke Fields
- Daniel Richard Kornegay to Nancy Lee Smith
- Jose Guadalupe Jimenez Aguilar to Maria Margarita Gutierrez Santana

Land Transfers

- Andrea L Weinman, Ronald L Weinman to Ronald L Weinman and Andrea L Weinman Living Revocable Trust, Andrea L Weinman/TR, Ronald L Weinman/TR- 2 Tracts Bel-

- voir
- Thornton Homes Co to Christopher Sean Melvin, Sonya Vargas- 2 Tracts South River
- Hillery Darden Barber, Jason Alan Barber to Jason Alan Barber- North Clinton Township
- Drenda Strickland Ammons, William Charles Ammons Sr, William Gary Ammons to Anthony Leon Ammons- Little Coharie Township 3.68 Acres
- Drenda Strickland Ammons, William Charles Ammons Sr to Anthony Leon Ammons- Lot Little Coharie Two Tracts
- Carrington Mortgage Services LLC to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development of Washington DC- 2.15 Acres
- Tony Deal, Cynthia Williams Hudspeth, Crystal Williams Lawrence, Ricky Len Williams, Sandra C Williams to James Timothy Williams- Honeycuts 0.86 Acres
- Nettie Sue Pope to Megan E Hart, Thomas C Hart Jr- Lot 20 Belfield Acres North Clinton
- Lavon C Buhman, Richard L Buhman to John Dean Alsup III- 2 Tracts McDaniels
- Janice P Blake, Jody J Blake to John Dean Alsup III- 20 Acres Lot 1 McDaniels
- Joanna Brewer, Ollie Watkins to Ryan Zeno Tobi- Lot 40 0.49 Acres Westbrook
- Brandon Sherrill Tyndall to Brandon Sherrill Tyndall, Johnny Lynn Tyndall, Kimberly R Tyndall- 1.00 Acre Lot 2 Dismal
- LDTB Development Company LLC, Linwood C Thornton/MBR/MGR to Comfort Homes Inc- Lots 12 & 18 Phase 2 Hudson Farms Subdivision
- Belinda Lee Jordan, Garrett Strickland to Kristine G Travers, Lawrence Blake Travers- 2 Tracts
- Bank of America NA to Jason Brougher- Lot 12 Barefoot Farm
- Andrew Winton Johnson III to Dixie Britton- Halls Township 0.67 Acres Lot 10 William Vada Westbrook Division
- Karen McLamb to Brad Aaron Kovacs- Lot 8 Phase One Grove Place Estate Newton Grove
- Arizona Danielle Faison to Venture Manor Inc- 0.41 Acres North Clinton
- Edith Patricia Oates, Ronnie Keith Oates to Repo Inc- South Clinton 21.16 Acres w/ exception & South Clinton Township Lot 3
- Brain Keith Oates, Carmen Kornegay Oates, Edith Patricia Oates, Ronnie Keith Oates to Repo Inc- South Clinton 1.16 Acres
- City of Clinton, Elvia Simmons/TR to Roscoe A Emanuel Jr/TR, OLive Grove Church, Harold Simmons/TR, Randy L Simmons/TR- South Clinton
- Charlotte B Hudson/TR, Charlotte B Hudson, John L Hudson Jr, John L Hudson Jr Trust to TDM Farms Inc- Six Tracts
- Elaine Rich Carroll, Bobby E Marshall, Viola Rich Marshall, Connie M Rich, Eddis Charles Rich to Joyce H Shpp, William B Shipp -Tract 7 R Bernard Shipp Heirs Land Division Hall
- Wells Fargo Bank NA to Castlerock 2017 LLC- Lot 29 Heritage Place
- Charlotte B Hudson, Charlotte B Hudson/TR, John L Hudson Jr, John L Hudson Jr Trust to Seven Mile LLC- Westbrook Township 7.13 Acres
- Elizabeth Norris Burkhalter, William G Burkhalter, Deborah Holland Byrd, Deborah Holland Campbell/FKA, James B Holland, Melody P Holland, Mickie P Holland, Paul C Holland Jr, Carol Mills Norris, Jeffrey K Norris, Mark Andrew Norris, Martha Renee Norris, Nicholas Charles Norris, Jo Ellen Norris Tant, Johnny R Tant to Anne Bryan Faircloth - Lot Sampson
- Linwood Lewis Jr to Cecilia Prieto- Lot 26 0.96 Acres Mingo
- John D Lane, Karon B Lane to Heather Denise Lane- Lot 1 0.69 Acres Plainview
- Lyman M Horne Jr, Penny Latimer Horne to April Horne Parker- 2 Tracts North Clinton
- Ramon Favila, Tina Favila to Silvano Mejia, Tammy Mejia- Herring Lot 7 Coharie Villas Subdivision

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Help Wanted

Transformer Maintenance & Service, Inc. in Newton Grove, NC is looking a Journeyman Welder. As a Journeyman Welder you will be responsible for using Stick, Mig, Tig, and Flux Core welding techniques to weld various components in flat, vertical, or overhead positions.

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- Performing any combination of duties to assist workers in welding, brazing, and thermal and arc cutting activities
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TMS offers health insurance, dental insurance and 401k retirement plan.

Please send resumes or applications to:
Transformer Maintenance and Service, Inc.
PO BOX 189
Newton Grove, NC 28366
Attn: Bobby Moore

Chamber Chat



**By Kaitlin Norris,
Executive Director
Clinton-Sampson
Chamber of Commerce**

Happy Thursday Chamber friends! We have had a great kick-off to our 2018 year. This past Monday we celebrated the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with our 18th Annual MLK Banquet. We had a wonderful message from Dr. Anderson, Chancellor at Fayetteville State University. Many stayed for a lunch provided by Burney's Sweets and More after the event was over.

Join us tonight for our January Business After Hours hosted by Sampson Regionals Medical Centers Outpatient Rehabilitation Center and The Center for Health and Wellness. We will be at 405 Beamon Street from 5:00pm-6:30pm. Come out for a chance to win some awesome door prizes and enjoy some wonderful food!

Save the date for the Chamber's Annual Celebration on Thursday, February 22nd. The theme for the night is a Frosty Frolic! On this night we will celebrate our members as well as our nominees and award winners! We will start our cocktail hour at 5:30pm and dinner will begin at 6:30. Reservations will be available at the beginning of February at the Chamber Office.

We hope everyone strives to be active in our community in 2018. We love to see people getting involved with our town and in our events. If you have any questions regarding any of our upcoming events please give us a call at 910-592-6177 or email us at info@clintonsampsonchamber.org

EX-SPOUSE BENEFITS AND HOW THEY AFFECT YOU



Just like during tax season, it is good to have all the information you need early so you can prepare and get any money you are due.

If you are age 62, unmarried, and divorced from someone entitled to Social Security retirement or disability benefits, you may be eligible to receive benefits based on his or her record. To be eligible, you must have been married to your ex-spouse for 10 years or more. If you have since remarried, you cannot collect benefits on your former spouse's record unless your later marriage ended by annulment, divorce, or death. Also, if you are entitled to benefits on your own record, your benefit amount must be less than you would receive based on your ex-spouse's work. In other words, we will pay the higher of the two benefits for which you are eligible, but not both.

You can apply for benefits on your former spouse's record even if he or she has not retired, as long as you divorced at least two years before applying. If, however, you decide to wait until full retirement age to apply as a divorced spouse, your benefit will be equal to half of your ex-spouse's full retirement amount or disability benefit. The same rules apply for a deceased former spouse.

The amount of benefits you get has no effect on the benefits of your ex-spouse and his or her current spouse. Visit Retirement Planner: If you are divorced at, www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/divspouse.html to find all the eligibility requirements you must meet to apply as a divorced spouse. Our benefits planner gives you an idea of your monthly benefit amount. If your ex-spouse died after you divorced, you may still qualify for widow's benefits. You will find information about that in a note at the bottom of the website.



By Brenda Brown

Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/divspouse.html today to learn whether you are eligible for benefits on your ex-spouse's record. That could mean a considerable amount of monthly income. What you learn may bring a smile to your face ... even on tax day!

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Ahhh! A Rocking Chair front porch, screened porch w/swing & covered deck for dining - PLUS gorgeous landscaping! The Foyer receives great natural light from the palladium window in the Great Room. Formal & Casual dining options. Granite Counters in Kitchen, laundry rm w/pantry, gas-log FP in GR. D/S Mstr w/garden tub in en suite. Upstairs the bdrms are located at opposite ends of the catwalk w/hall bath in the middle. This home has it all - comfortable, pretty & great for entertaining! Come meet your new neighbors!

Call Steph at 910/988-4242



2018 Precinct Meetings

Mingo/Plainview Precincts Meeting
Tuesday, February 20th at 7:00pm
Plainview Fire Hall

Joint Precinct Meeting
Tuesday, February 20th at 7:00pm
Sampson County GOP Headquarters

If you have any questions, call Tolia Kivett, Chairman SCGOP 910-990-9434. Paid for by the Sampson County Republican Party
[Facebook.com/SampsonGOP](https://www.facebook.com/SampsonGOP)

Small Business Center

How to Price Your Products for Small Business Owners -
Jan. 22, 2018 - Presented by Steve Carver - From 6:30pm-9:00pm Come out and learn how to price your products and services so you can maximize your earnings! Location: East Building Room 131.

How to Write a Business Plan-

Jan. 23, 2018 - Presented by Steve Carver - From 6:00pm-9:00pm A business plan can be the most important tool a small business owner has. Learn how to turn your ideas into a solid plan for financing and long-term success. This seminar teaches you the important components of a business plan and helps you lay the foundation for a winning plan. Find out how marketing, operations, and finance are interrelated. Discover how a business plan is used by potential lenders, the dos and don'ts of writing a plan and steps for making the process easy. This seminar is designed for new and established business owners. Location: East Building Room 127.

<https://www.ncsbc.net/center.aspx?center=75450>
Contact: Bart Rice, Director, Small Business Center

910-592-7176 ext. 2032, E: brice@sampsoncc.edu

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Think **Outside** the Lunchbox

FAMILY FEATURES

Eating the same thing every day can make lunch seem so "blah." Now's the perfect time to break out of the lunch rut and add some excitement to your meals.

Thinking outside the traditional lunchbox is easy with the right ingredients. Perk up your noontime noshing with fresh, seasonal ingredients coupled with kitchen pantry classics, like California Ripe Olives, which add a unique flavor and bold, distinctive color to any dish.

California farmers grow more than 95 percent of the ripe olives consumed in the United States. From planting, pruning, harvesting and processing, they make sure that the highest quality olives come from their farms to your table – one can at a time.

Adding olives to any lunch can help bring California sunshine to each and every bite. Try some of these portable and packable recipes to add excitement to lunch on-the-go and find more at calolive.org.

Greek Salad in Jars

Courtesy of Simply Recipes
Makes: 4 salads

Salad Dressing:

- 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt, plus additional, to taste (optional)
- pinch of black pepper, plus additional, to taste (optional)
- 1/4 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 5 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 pint-size canning jars with lids

Salads:

- 1/4 medium red onion, thinly sliced
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/2 large English cucumber, sliced
- 1 yellow or orange bell pepper, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 3/4 cup California black ripe olives
- 1/2 cup (4 ounces) crumbled feta cheese
- 4 small handfuls fresh baby spinach or other dark, leafy greens
- 4 pita bread rounds, halved (optional)

To prepare dressing: In small bowl, whisk together vinegar, salt, pepper, oregano and honey.

Gradually whisk in oil. Taste. Add additional salt and pepper, if desired.

Divide dressing between four pint jars.

To assemble salads: Divide onion between four jars.

Divide tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, olives and feta cheese between jars. Pack remaining space with spinach, compressing leaves slightly.

Secure lids and refrigerate up to two days.

To serve: Empty salads into bowls and toss with dressing.

Serve with pita bread.

Note: Store and transport salads upright so dressing stays on bottom.



Deliciously Different

Smoked California Ripe Olives can produce a crave-worthy culinary surprise and become one of your favorite flavor discoveries. There are a few easy ways to make your own smoked olives, including preparing them on the grill with these quick steps:

1. Soak wood chips in water for 30 minutes. Drain well.
2. Pierce a foil pan several times with a small, sharp knife and spread wood chips in a single layer in the pan. Set directly on hot coals or metal bars on a gas grill. Close the lid and set heat to high only under the pan of chips.
3. When chips are smoking, place drained California Ripe Olives in a grill basket on grill with the burners off. Close the lid and smoke for 30 minutes.



Black and White Pizza

Makes: 1 pizza

- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil, plus additional for pizza crust
- 1 cup onion, quartered and thinly sliced
- 2 tablespoons roasted garlic, minced
- 4 ounces small baby bella mushrooms, chopped
- 1 package prepared pizza dough
- 1 cup prepared Alfredo sauce
- 1 cup smoked mozzarella cheese, shredded
- 4 ounces fresh mozzarella cheese, torn into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 small boneless, skinless chicken breast, cooked and thinly sliced
- 2 tablespoons fresh rosemary, chopped

1 can (6 ounces) extra-large California Black Ripe Olives, drained and cut in wedges
freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano

Heat oven to 450 F and line large baking sheet with parchment paper.

In large skillet over medium heat, heat 1 tablespoon oil. Add onion, garlic and mushrooms, and cook, stirring frequently, 10 minutes, or until onions are soft. Reserve.

Roll pizza dough into thin oval on lightly floured surface. Transfer to prepared baking sheet and brush lightly with olive oil then spread evenly with Alfredo sauce.

Top with mushroom mixture, cheeses, chicken and rosemary. Sprinkle olives over pizza.

Bake 10-15 minutes, or until cheese is melted and lightly browned around edges.

Serve with Parmigiano-Reggiano.



Maple Olive Cheesecake Bites

Makes: 16-20 mini cheesecakes

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 1/2 cup graham cracker crumbs
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 3 tablespoons sugar, divided
- 6 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
- 3 tablespoons pure maple syrup

- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup coarsely chopped California Ripe Olives

Heat oven to 325 F and coat 16-20-cup mini muffin tin with nonstick cooking spray.

In small bowl, stir together graham cracker crumbs, butter and 1 tablespoon sugar. Place equal amounts into each mini muffin cup then press firmly into bottom of each cup. Working with one cup at a time, press small piece of plastic wrap onto

surface and press crust firmly into mini muffin cups.

In large bowl of electric mixer, beat cream cheese, maple syrup and remaining sugar until smooth; beat in flour and vanilla on low speed. Add egg and beat until just combined; stir in olives.

Spoon equal amounts into each cup. Bake 20-25 minutes, or until filling feels set.

Let cool completely then run small, thin knife around edge of each to remove from pan.

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